

ARAB TIMES

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20 PAGES 150 FILS

East wind sparks dialogue

Dealing with change

NICOSIA, Jan 15. (Agencies): Gulf Arab ministers meeting today to discuss the political revolution sweeping eastern Europe have adopted plans to deal with the changes, an *Oman* minister was quoted as saying.

Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Yousef Bin Alawi said the plans dealt with future relations between the oil-rich Gulf Arab states and eastern Europe but gave no details.

"Eastern Europe has a weight that is bound to have its impact on the world level," the *Oman* news agency, received in Cyprus, quoted Alawi as saying.

He said the *Gulf* Co-operation Council (GCC), a political and economic alliance comprising Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, the United Arab Emirates, Qatar, Bahrain and *Oman*, wanted to make a "positive contribution in ensuring international peace."

Except for Saudi Arabia, all GCC states maintain relations with Eastern Bloc countries, but the volume of trade between them is negligible.

GCC heads of state at their last summit in December ordered the meeting to debate the political revolution sweeping eastern Europe, superpower detente and plans for a united European market in 1992.

It was attended by Alawi, Kuwait's Finance Minister Jassim Mohammed Al Khorafi, Bahrain's Information Minister Tariq Al-moayyed and GCC Secretary-General Abdulla Bishara.

Earlier today, Nabil Shaath, an adviser to PLO chairman Yasser Arafat told a marketing course attended by 350 delegates from the six states that Arab interests could be served if they formed a unified economic bloc to take advantage of opportunities generated by the changes.

Last week, the Kuwaiti Interior Ministry cautioned citizens assembling in

divanisys from discussing economic national issues and affirmed that legal action will be taken against violators, a ministry source said.

The source added that this procedure assesses a ministry statement issued last Dec 28 on assembling in divanisys to discuss certain issues, which contradicts the positive traditional concept of these divanisys.

He indicated that a citizen had called for a public assembly in his private divanisys at Jisra area of Kuwait on Jan 8, despite being cautioned against such a step, in violation of Law 5 for 1979 regarding public gatherings.

"To maintain law and order and in implementation of a decision by the Council of Ministers in this respect, the (Interior) Ministry took legal measures to prevent and disperse this assembly according to Article 11 of the said law," he noted.

The Interior Ministry called on all citizens to co-operate with it and comply with state laws in this regard.

Bulgaria reds lose monopoly

SOFIA, Jan 15. (Reuter): Bulgaria scrapped the Communist Party's 45-year-old monopoly on power today clearing the way for multi-party democracy.

In a unanimous vote, parliament formally agreed to strike from the constitution a clause guaranteeing the party's leading role in government.

"We are ready to give up our monopoly guaranteed by law, to study pluralism as a normal state," leading Communist Party Politburo member Andrei Lukyanov told the National Assembly before the first of two unanimous votes on the issue.

The assembly formally approved the change to the constitution late in its today's session.

The decision to drop the party's leading role follows the scrapping of similar clauses by Hungary, Poland, East Germany and Czechoslovakia, which like Bulgaria, have promised free elections this year.

Bulgaria, which has lagged behind the pace of reforms in other parts of eastern Europe, has been anxious to prove its commitment to democratic change since the ousting of veteran leader Todor Zhivkov by Petar Mladenov two months ago.

A growing tide of public dissent erupted into angry protests by more than 40,000 people outside the national assembly during last month's session when Parliament said it had to delay scrapping of the clause for constitutional reasons.

After the first of the two votes today, Lukyanov pledged an open dialogue on democracy with all parties.

"We are ready to conduct an open dialogue with all social and political forces without discrimination," he said.

Weather

FAIR weather with light to moderate northwesterly wind.
State of sea: Slight to moderate
High water: 2.00 am, 4.00 pm
Low water: 10.00 am, 10.00 pm
Sunrise: 6.43 am
Sunset: 5.12 pm
Maximum temperatures recorded:
Kuwait: 11°C 52°F
Ahmadi: 11°C 52°F
Faisaliah: 11°C 52°F
Minimum temperatures recorded:
Kuwait: 6.1°C 43°F
Ahmadi: 10°C 50°F
Faisaliah: 10°C 50°F
Maximum temperatures expected:
Kuwait: 13°C 55°F
Ahmadi: 12°C 54°F
Faisaliah: 12°C 54°F
Maximum humidity recorded:
Kuwait: 68 per cent
Ahmadi: 86 per cent
Faisaliah: 80 per cent

Hear us—let us hear

THE system that failed in East Europe and that which was shaken in Russia, is the communist regime. It was this regime that fought the traditional conservative or what is called the reactionary regimes.

These conservative or reactionary regimes as described by communism, are spontaneous regimes which did not know how to utilise the opportunity of the communist defeat.

They remained spectators to the downfall of communism in the world. Spectators in a manner that indicated that the issue did not concern them, or was an occurrence a distance away. They could have utilised the opportunity to speak about themselves and gain a greater role to their opinion.

The communist regime was speaking with pride about the people's rule while suppressing the people. It talked about freedom and liberty while assassinating people secretly and openly. It formed the secret police services to kill people and suppress them and in the final analysis, what failed was the communist regime which was contrary to the conservative regimes.

The communist regime has fallen and the conservative regimes were involved in protecting their public opinions from the threat posed by communism. Talking openly is no more frightening — since no one is ready to listen to those who talk in a strange language. People may watch those speaking about imaginary issues, but will not be influenced by what they say.

Now it is vital for these regimes to meet the demands of their people. These demands could be limited presently to sharing opinions and shouldering some responsibilities. It is to be stated that shouldering responsibilities at this time will not be an easy task.

More clarification at the official level of these regimes will certainly be very fruitful — especially now that the lust of change that swept Eastern Europe is spreading.

People wish to hear such clarifications particularly when it is issued officially and publicly.

For example in Kuwait an indirect saying is repeated stressing that there is no one against the popular participation. But, what

is the formula of this participation? Is it the same as the previous one?

In the view of the authority, the previous formula had its shortcomings and there should be a new one. Thus, there is no objection to the popular participation and this has been said on behalf of the authority.

It is important that the ideas of the authority are directly said and published. There is no harm in articulating them, in order to know what the shortcomings of the past were and what is wanted now — particularly when the authority with democracy, constitution, free system, freedom of expression and the readiness to listen to the people.

Let's declare that openly. Let the government say this frankly in order to cut the way for speculation and rumours.

In such cases, the opinion of the state should be well known and well publicised — in the same manner that other opinions are widely published — whether through the press or other private means.

Ahmed Al Jarallah

Emergency in Karabakh

Azeri civil war will be crushed by force, vows premier

MOSCOW, Jan 15. (Agencies): The Presidium of the Supreme Soviet today declared a state of emergency in the disputed Transcaucasian territory of Nagorno-Karabakh and other areas, Soviet television reported.

The decision gives the military special powers to control public order, such as banning public gatherings which have degenerated into violence approaching a civil war between Soviet Armenians and Azerbaijanis.

Thirty-four people died in anti-Armenian rioting in Baku, the Azerbaijani capital, at the weekend and other deaths were reported today in Azerbaijani villages during ethnic battles over control of Nagorno-Karabakh.

The disputed territory is in Azerbaijan, but has a predominantly Armenian population

which wants to be united with neighbouring Armenia. The Presidium, under the leadership of President Mikhail Gorbachev, declared the state of emergency in Nagorno-Karabakh and several other regions, the television said.

It did not name the other areas, but said the complete declaration would be published in the press.

Azerbaijanis and Armenians with machine guns battled each other today as the Soviet Union's bloodiest ethnic conflict worsened.

The Kremlin flew reinforcements of internal security troops to Azerbaijan to try to stop the bloodletting, the worst between the two ethnic groups since their long-simmering feud in the Caucasus boiled over nearly two years ago.

Soviet Premier Nikolai Ryzhkov said today military force will be used to prevent civil war between Christian Armenians and Muslim Azerbaijanis. The toll in the Baku pogrom climbed to at least 34 dead and new pogroms flared today, the Izvestia government newspaper said.

A total of 660 Armenians, mainly women and children, were evacuated from the Azerbaijani capital of Baku by boat across the Caspian Sea to the Republic of Turkmenia, the daily Izvestia said.

The dramatic rescue on two ferry boats took the Armenian women and children from Baku on the western edge of the Caspian to Krasnovodsk on the eastern side in Turkmenia, Izvestia said.

Soviet media said authorities had lost control in some parts of the southern republic, where most of the victims were Armenians attacked by mobs of Azerbaijanis in the capital of Baku.

The official Soviet news agency Tass said some Azerbaijanis were armed with machine guns, and that in one part of the republic, communists and government officials were taken hostage.

State-run television said 300 Armenians and Azerbaijanis fought in the Shumyanovsk region of Azerbaijan, where Armenian and Azerbaijani villages coexist. It quoted a soldier as saying Armenians fought back with hunting rifles and Kalashnikov submachine guns when a group of Azerbaijanis tried to set fire to an Armenian farm.

Attacks on the homes of Armenians living in Azerbaijan continued, with more killings and six more bodies found, the TV news programme Vremya said tonight. Four of the dead were Armenians, and the others were of unidentified nationality, it said.

Seventh Abdullaeva, the chief editor of Azerbaijan's official news agency Azerinform, said in a telephone interview that Armenians hiding in the woods were firing on passing cars in Shumyanovsk and an adjoining region. She said the Armenians were receiving guns and ammunition ferried in by unmarked helicopters.

"The pogroms and attacks on Armenians continue in Baku today," Izvestia said. "There are all 34 murted in all, but the figure is not final, because all the apartments 'visited' by the participants of the programme have not been checked."

Meanwhile, more than 30 Soviet Muslims using inflated tyre tubes swam across the Araks River into Iran, the Islamic Republic News Agency reported today.

The broadcast, monitored in Nicosia, has reported dozens of such crossings since Shiite Muslim protests in Soviet Azerbaijan broke out Dec 31.



Pakistan Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto, who is expecting her second child soon, holds her 16-month-old son Bilawal. Benazir will be the world's first serving head of state to give birth, but the likely date is Pakistan's best kept secret. (Reuter wirephoto)

'Hands off'

India warns Pakistan

NEW DELHI, Jan 15. (Reuter): India accused Pakistan today of backing Muslim militants in the Indian territory of Kashmir, where at least 23 people have died in a week of secessionist violence.

An Indian External Affairs Ministry spokesman said in a statement: "Jammu and Kashmir is an integral part of India and the only issue to be resolved is vacating of those areas of the state which are illegally occupied by Pakistan."

Anti-Indian violence rocking Kashmir, India's only Muslim majority state, has become a major challenge to Indian Prime Minister Vishwanath Pratap Singh's newly-elected government.

The two countries have fought two of their three wars over Kashmir, of which India holds two-thirds of the strategic territory and Pakistan the rest.

New Delhi said a Pakistani statement yesterday that it was deeply worried by violence in India-controlled Kashmir was wanton interference in Indian affairs.

The Pakistani spokesman's claim that there is no hostile activity across the line of control does not stand scrutiny. There is overwhelming evidence of terrorists receiving support from Pakistan, the Indian statement said.

It accused Islamabad of allowing leaders of the militant Jammu and Kashmir Liberation front (JKLF) to direct threats against India from Pakistani soil.

Indian police said Muslim militants killed an intelligence officer and another passenger in a gun attack on a bus in the Kashmir city of Srinagar today.

The JKLF last month kidnapped Home Minister Mufti Mohammad Sayeed's daughter in Srinagar and swapped her for five of its jailed members.

"Vicious propaganda is being disseminated by Pakistan's official electronic media," the Indian statement said. "It is not conducive to peace and stability in the region." (See Page 2)

DAY BY DAY

IN our modern day, there is more talk and less work, though it is an established fact that only issues that benefit people will remain alive and "irrelevant talk will perish."

Before being elected president of the US, two candidates face each other in a direct debate. The candidate who cannot transfer his ideas and is not aware of the technique of addressing people fails and goes back to his home. The other who expresses himself well succeeds.

We say this to reiterate the fact that whatever is spoken — even by crazy people, the public is capable of distinguishing

Zahed Matar

Lithuania snubs

MOSCOW, Jan 15. (Agencies): Lithuania's Communist Party chief was overwhelmingly elected the republic's president today in a clear endorsement of his defiant stand against Moscow and Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev.

Algirdas Brazauskas was elected 228-4, with 19 abstentions, by the republic's supreme Soviet legislature, the official Soviet news agency Tass reported. He ran against national legislator Kazimira Motiekaitis and Romualdas Ozolas, a leader of the pro-independence group Sajudis.

Residents said the authorities forced the organisers to use Ulan Bator's main square and protesters took their banners to Lenin Square where speakers addressed the crowd from the steps of a cinema.

Many of Mongolia's two million people are still herdsmen eking a living out of deserts and mountains scattered across an area almost three times the size of France sandwiched between the Soviet Union and China.

Other banners seen yesterday said "down with bureaucracy" and "speed up perestroika" — the reforms launched by Kremlin leader Mikhail Gorbachev that have been embraced, but only cautiously, by Mongolian leader Zhambyn Batmunkh.

"People are impatient with the pace of reforms," said a resident by telephone.

"It's escalating," he said, explaining that yesterday's rally was the third and by far the biggest since the Mongolian Democratic Union was formed in mid-December.

During the three-day visit, Gorbachev pleaded for unity repeatedly but

(minus 22 Fahrenheit) temperatures for more than an hour.

"Mongolian brothers and sisters to your horses," said the largest banner.

Residents contacted by telephone from neighbouring China said the city, a jumble of tents and conventional concrete blocks, was calm today but another protest was expected next Sunday.

Defiant leader becomes President

BEIJING, Jan 15. (Reuter): Popular demands for reforms that have changed the politics of Eastern Europe have spread as far as remote Mongolia where up to 5,000 people demonstrated in the capital, Ulan Bator, yesterday, residents said.

The peaceful protest rally was the communist country's biggest in recent history, and perhaps the world's coldest, held in minus 30 degrees Centigrade.

The rally was organised by the Mongolian Democratic Union, an opposition group set up by students and intellectuals last month. The group claims to have 60,000 members.

The Soviet news agency, which has staff in Ulan Bator, said official approval was given for the rally.

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33 more Lankans murdered

COLOMBO, Jan 15. (AP): Police found the bodies of 17 Sinhalese men dumped along a roadside after they had apparently been shot by pro-government vigilantes, witnesses said today.

They were among the latest victims of the 2 and 1-2-year-old struggle between Sinhalese and Tamils and the Sinhalese-controlled government.

Reporters in Matale, 105 kilometers (65 miles) northeast of Colombo, said 17 bodies of men ranging in age between 18 and 35 were recovered yesterday from a 5-kilometer (3-mile) stretch of road there.

The reporters, who spoke on condition of anonymity, said the men had apparently been shot by vigilante squads in the continuing crackdown against the People's Liberation Front, an ultranationalist Sinhalese guerrilla group.

Human rights organisations say the vigilantes operate with the tacit support of President Ranasinghe Premadasa's government and regularly kill civilians suspected of links with the front.

The government also blames the killings on vigilantes, but says they operate without government support.

Sinhalese militants have been trying since 1987 to overthrow the government, accusing it of making too many concessions to Sri Lanka's Tamil minority in trying to end a Tamil secession.

In other developments, security forces were kept on alert in the eastern Muslim-dominated city of Samanthurai after suspected Tamil rebels shot dead a Muslim youth yesterday, officials in Colombo today said.

A new militant Hinduism emerging in India

NEW DELHI, (CSM): Saying the Indian government is pampering minorities at the expense of majority Hindus, a growing number of middle class Hindus fear their religion is endangered.

"Hindus have become like a minority," says G. Raguvir, leader of the right-wing Hindu National Volunteer Corps. "They are appeasing the minorities who are starting to dictate to us."

Hinduism, one of the world's oldest and most tolerant religions, is taking on a new image. For three millennia, Hindu culture has been like a sponge, absorbing values and beliefs brought by frequent foreign invaders.

When India was freed from British rule in 1947 and partitioned, Pakistan became a homeland for Muslims, while

predominantly Hindu India was founded on a secular ideal.

Today, Hindus are caught up in the fundamentalist wave sweeping religion. Hindu chauvinism not only challenges Indian secularism, analysts say. It also has stirred religious tensions which will shape politics at home and abroad and pose the biggest threat to the government of Prime Minister V.P. Singh. "The concept of Hinduism is changing completely," says Romila Thapar, a prominent Indian historian.

"The frightening part is that in the next few years we will see a new militant religion emerge in this country."

That changing Hindu view is most evident in the new power of the right-wing Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP). Five years ago, the organisation had just two seats in the 545-member lower

house of India's Parliament.

As part of the successful opposition effort to unseat former prime minister Rajiv Gandhi, the party surged to 88 seats in a Parliament where no party enjoys a majority. The party's uneasy support is crucial to the survival of Singh's minority government.

BJP leaders push a controversial agenda they call "positive secularism" which they say will safeguard minorities while giving Hindus their rightful place in the country where they account for 80 per cent of the 800 million population. But critics predict they will undermine secular policies and protections for Muslims and other minorities.

Lal Kishan Advani, the president of the BJP, bristles at suggestions that the organisation is communal. In India,

communalism refers to differences and tensions over religion, language, and caste.

"There's a curious secularism in this country," says the leader, a refugee from Pakistan more than 40 years ago. "A Christian saying he is proud of his religion is a good thing. A Muslim saying he is proud of Islam is a good thing. But Advani saying he is proud to be a Hindu is communalism."

A major test for Singh, who supports secularism but took an ambivalent stand on the temple issue during the campaign, will come in January. At that time, Hindu activists say they will continue work on a new temple on a disputed north Indian site sacred to both Hindus and Muslims.

The controversy already has cost hundreds of lives as Hindus and

Muslims clashed in the election campaign. India's huge Muslim minority is uneasy that the issue will snowball into Hindu demands for other disputed sites. Analysts fear that the BJP rank and file will be emboldened by the party's election strength and override its more moderate leaders.

That international insecurity has combined with Hindu anxieties and resentment at home over poverty, population pressures, joblessness, Westernisation, and expanding programme for lower castes and minorities.

Organisations such as the National Volunteer Corps, founded more than 60 years ago, have resurfaced in recent years on fears that thousands of years of Hindu tradition are under siege.

"The Hindu way of life here is supreme," says S.P. Kapur, a retired government employee who has been attending the National Volunteer Corps since 1940. "We are patriots and want to safeguard our country."

Radicals kill 2 police officers

Strike paralyses Srinagar

SRINAGAR, Jan 15, (UPI): Kashmiri Muslim radicals today killed two intelligence officers and halted commerce in Srinagar as India said it had "overwhelming" evidence of terrorist support by Pakistan for the separatists.

Life throughout Srinagar, the summer capital of Jammu and Kashmir state, was paralysed as businesses and shops closed and residents remained indoors observing a one-day strike to protest the killing of 14 pro-secession protesters by security forces last week during riots in Kashmir town.

The strike call was issued by political groups on Pakistan's side of the Himalayan region.

Today, officials said an undisclosed number of militants secretly killed two police intelligence officials aboard a state-run bus in a suburb of Srinagar, north of New Delhi.

The militants brandished guns and ordered the driver to stop at an isolated spot. Officials said the radicals ordered other passengers to leave and then shot the two officers, killing one, M.L. Bhan, instantly.

Officials said the second officer later died at a hospital.

The slayings came eight days after militants killed two police intelligence officers in the nearby districts of Anantnag and Baramulla.

Also today, the radicals continued attacks on government targets, torching two public high schools. Officials said militants also hurled a gasoline bomb at a paramilitary patrol in Srinagar, but there were no casualties.

Meanwhile, a Foreign Ministry spokesman in New Delhi fired the latest volley in a increasingly

Pakistan dumb as Benazir is mum

ISLAMABAD, Jan 15, (Reuters): Benazir Bhutto will soon become the world's first prime minister to give birth while in office, but the likely date remains Pakistan's best kept secret.

Not even her closest advisers will admit to knowing when the child is due for fear that it could give the opposition a chance to launch a challenge to her fragile government.

But while Pakistan waits, political analysts say the government machine is grinding to a standstill, with a series of tough decisions being put off until after the 348 conflict.

"The Pakistanis are so keen's claim that there is no hostile activities across the line of actual control (border) does not stand scrutiny. There is overwhelming evidence of terrorist support from Pakistan," he said.

He said that leaders of the most popular pro-secession group, the Jammu and Kashmir Liberation Front, are "routinely being allowed to make statements, even direct threats against India, from Pakistan's soil."

"Such actions violate bilateral, regional and international obligations," he said.

New Delhi controls about two-thirds of Kashmir, which has strategic borders with China and the Soviet Union.

The turmoil in Indian Kashmir is emerging as the most serious problem for the new minority National Front government of Prime Minister V.P. Singh. It stems from the wrenching partition of the sub-continent into India and Pakistan in 1947 at independence from British soil.

This inertia has gripped the government party because of the feeling that once she delivers the baby she will deliver something else too," she said.

Political insiders and intelligence sources have been whispering dates for a month but all the dates come and go without anything happening.

The 36-year-old prime minister is swathed in a figure-concealing shawl whenever she appears in public and it is considered rude in Islamic Pakistan to ask her directly about her pregnancy.

Last week, leaders of her Pakistan People's Party in Karachi jumped the gun by firing off congratulatory messages on the birth of a second son.

Benazir's son, Binafai, was born by Cesarean section on Sept. 21, 1988. She was back on the hearings within days.

Most people expected the birth closer to the Nov. 16 general elections, but Benazir kept her secret and went on to win the polls and become the Muslim world's first woman prime minister.

This birth is also expected to be Cesarean, which gives the prime minister an element of choice about the date.

Government sources say she will take about 10 days off to recuperate, but will then have to come to grips with some of her most pressing problems.

"I think there is going to be an attempt to put things on an even keel but whether she will be successful I do not know," a European diplomat said.

Her problem is that anybody she dismisses from the government will be an instant target for opposition offers and could be tempted to switch sides.

Benazir had a majority of only 12 in November's confidence vote, which leaves little room for manoeuvre.

After the vote, the prime minister admitted her government had made mistakes in its first year. Since then the government has done virtually nothing, said Lodhi.

"What they have failed to do," she said, "is give this government any sense of purpose."

Manila captures a rebel leader

Aquino gives priority to manhunt

MANILA, Jan 15, (Agencies): Philippine police today announced the capture of a rebel military leader and the armed forces chief predicted others involved in last month's bloody coup attempt would be seized "one by one."

President Corazon Aquino told reporters she had ordered Army Chief of Staff General Renato De Villa to give priority to the capture of leaders still at large following the December 1-7 putsch.

Aquino said the fear of a further coup attempt would remain until all the plotters were brought to justice.

Bibit admitted involvement in the failed army insurrection when he was presented to reporters today, two days after his capture in Manila's southeastern district of Taguig.

"It's a matter of conviction," he said when asked why he joined the mutiny, the sixth and most serious coup attempt Aquino has faced in her four years in office.

Among those still at large are three generals and seven colonels, including top leader Gregorio "Gringo" Honasan, who carried a reward of one million pesos (\$44,500) and ex-brigadier general Edgardo Abejuna.

The rightist rebels, maintaining a propaganda barrage against Aquino, said today her government had failed the people and served only the interests of the privileged few.

In a letter published in the Manila Times, Abejuna said rebel soldiers would soon bring "real democracy" to the nation.

Alfredo Lim, head of the National Bureau of Investigation, said Bibit would be charged with rebellion and theft of firearms. Lim said Bibit was captured after a tipoff from an unidentified Manila resident.

Aquino yesterday expressed confidence the Philippines had seen the last of army coup attempts and that the country could look forward "to many long years of domestic stability."

But Senate President Jovito Salonga told Filpino reporters that political stability remained the number one problem and warned "unless we can achieve substantial reunification of the armed forces, we may be living from one coup to another."

Manila constabulary commander General Alexander Aguirre told a commission investigating the failed coup today that civilians also took part in the putsch by siding with the rebels, bringing them food and helping monitor military movements through radios.

He did not identify the civilians.

A provincial governor threatened today to lead a "people power" uprising if Aquino's administration removes him for alleged links to last month's failed coup.

President spokesman Adolf Azcuna said the government was determined to prosecute the governor.

Gov. Rodolfo Aguinaldo, a former constabulary colonel in the Philippines, said he may order his constituents in northern Cagayan province to attack corrupt government officials.

The community leaders, from the British Confederation of Indian Organisations, are pressuring for an agreement between India and Maldives under which New Delhi will offer technical and economic assistance to the island nation, according to a report received here.

India has also assured to provide more meteorological data from the Indian satellite

National Bureau of Investigation director Alfredo Lim (seated) questions Bibit (2nd from left). (Reuters wirephoto)

UK expats demand own lingo

Indo-Maldives accord signed

No defence pact

NEW DELHI, Jan 15. (Kuns): Maldives President Maumoon Abdul Qayoom today ruled out any defence pact with India, saying the Indian Ocean nation faces no danger to its security.

He said a defence treaty was not necessary as there was complete understanding between India and Maldives.

Qayoom was addressing a press conference at Male after signing of an agreement between India and Maldives under which New Delhi will offer technical and economic assistance to the island nation, according to a report received here.

India has also assured to provide more meteorological data from the Indian satellite

At present, all secondary schools in Britain must provide teaching in at least one of eight modern European languages.

But Indian languages and others, such as Arabic and Russian, are only optional.

"We do not expect schools to provide Indian languages for all..." but it would give esteem and recognition to our languages," Tara Mukherjee, president of the confederation, told the Guardian today.

CHAR MIRERSARAI, Bangladesh, Jan 15. (Reuters): More than 100 people were feared dead in Bangladesh after a river ferry was in collision with a cargo vessel and sank, officials and witnesses said today.

They said 200 passengers were on the ferry when the collision occurred last night on the Shitalakshya river 40 km (25 miles) from Dhaka.

Police said they were still trying to track down the cargo vessel, which did not stop after the accident.

Communication Minister Korban Ali told parliament divers had used fishing nets to retrieve 16 bodies but said nearly 100 were still missing.

A policeman at the scene told reporters many people may have been swept away by strong currents.

Hundreds of people waited for news about relatives on the sandy river bank near the town of Munshiganj.

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PITTSBURGH, Pennsylvania: A robber who punched the manager of a small general store did not realize the 73-year-old man standing by the newspaper stand was a former light heavyweight champion.

Former boxer Billy Conn jumped into the struggle and tried to break up the robbery, but the thief got away Wednesday with about \$80 from the store, police said.

Conn and the robber ended up on the floor and the thief got away after dumping the newspaper rack on the boxer's legs, said Conn's wife, Mary Louise, who ran out of the store to summon help.

"My instinct was to get help. Billy's instinct was to fight," she said. (AP)

RALEIGH, North Carolina: The telephone number for tourists interested in vacation information is being answered by people who are not going anywhere.

Working out of a cramped room at the correctional institution for women in Raleigh, six inmates are taking 700 calls a day, a number that will grow in the next three months as people plan summer vacations and respond to state advertisements.

The inmates, working for the highest prison wage of \$1 a day, three weeks ago replaced the two four state employees who used to answer the calls. The idea was to save the state \$40,000 a year, but officials say the prisoners, with the help of 14 other inmates who stuff envelopes with brochures and maps, also are getting out more information than state employees did.

Inmates and their overseer expressed satisfaction with the programme in interviews with the *Charlotte Observer*. (AP)

MIAMI BEACH, Florida: Is southern Florida big enough for two Manuel Noriega's?

Manuel Noriega, a US Navy veteran living in Miami Beach, is not certain.

Noriega says he has been bothered by harassing telephone calls from people who apparently have him confused with his notorious namesake.

"They have been very nasty calls. I try to explain, 'look, you're talking to the wrong guy,'" said the 34-year-old native of Mexico.

He is the only Manuel Noriega listed in the telephone book covering Miami, where deposed Panamanian ruler Manuel Antonio Noriega was arraigned last week on drug trafficking charges.

The Miami Beach Noriega worked for the Latin American division of Dupont before retiring. He now heads an export business. (AP)

SAN FRANCISCO: Bongos and cable car bells just will not do, says a band that insists the sound of an acceleration best distills the essence of Salsafest.

Members with the group called Those Darn Accordions serenaded Mayor Art Agnos outside city hall on Monday as the city weighed a proposal to proclaim the humble, pleated bellows the city's official musical instrument.

"There should be an official city instrument because we have official city songs and we need an instrument to play them on. It should be the accordion because of its rich history here and because it was invented here," said Tom Terriglia, a band member leading the effort.

Besides, said Terriglia of the instrument, "it's a good way to meet girls." (AP)

MIAMI, Florida: Football fan and former president Richard M. Nixon visited an old friend who is running a centre to help people suffering from paralysis.

Nixon spoke Thursday to patients at the Miami project to cure paralysis, founded by former Dolphins linebacker Nick Buoniconti, a friend since 1972.

Buoniconti and his son, Marc, who was left a quadriplegic after being injured in 1985 during a college football game, were among

Best dressed Jackson no longer a thriller

NEW YORK, Jan 15. (UPI): Michael Jackson is no longer a thriller to some arbiters of sartorial splendour.

The pop megastar, long a favourite of those compiling year-end lists, lost out to Comedian Alan King, as the best-dressed entertainer on the fashion foundation of America's 48th annual list of the "best dressed" of the year.

The list, released yesterday, also hailed President George Bush as the best-dressed statesman, Polish Labour leader Lech Wałęsa as the best-dressed international labour leader and Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev as the best-dressed man in "public life."

But the most shocking revelation on the list, compiled from a survey of custom tailors and designers, was the choice of King, the nightclubs comedian and movie star, over Jackson.

"A contrast to the costumes of previously listed Michael Jackson is King's formal wear," the foundation said. "A trend to dress up for better enjoyment is seen stimulated by King's appearance."

Also praised on the list were New Jersey Gov — elect James Florio as the best-dressed in government, New York City Mayor David Dinkins for civic affairs, magazine publisher Malcolm Forbes for society, and representative Edolphus Towns, Democrat of New York, for a legislator.

Rounding out the list were anchorman John Roland of television station WNYW-TV in New York City for communications and palimony attorney Marvin Mitchelson for law.

Those showing Nixon the state-of-the-art treatment facility.

"Sometimes all of us feel life's a little tough," Nixon said later. "We have some problems, disappointments. Whenever you get discouraged, you should think of these people. ... It's been an inspiration to me to go through this facility." (AP)

ATLANTA: The widow of US Congressman Mickey Leland, who was expecting at the time of his death in an Ethiopia plane crash last summer, gave birth prematurely on Sunday to twin boys, a spokesman said.

Alice Leland, 31, was in Atlanta for festivities surrounding Monday's Martin Luther King Jr National Holiday.

Mrs Leland came to Grady Memorial Hospital about 5 am Sunday, and gave birth to the boys around noon (1700 GMT), according to Grady spokesman Jim Driscoll.

She and the boys — one 3 pounds (1.3 kilograms), the other 2 pounds, 11 ounces (1.2 kilograms) — are doing well. Driscoll said, The infants, several weeks premature, are in Grady's special care nursery. (AP)

ROME: Pope John Paul II on Sunday said he has the flu but the influenza that is sweeping Italy has left him with a healthy sense of humour.

During his ritual Sunday afternoon visit to a Rome parish in his role as bishop of Rome, the Pope joked about his apparently mild illness when he met a group of people converting to Catholicism, the Italian news agency Ansa reported.

"Perhaps you're surprised by the fact that the Pope, even though he's a step away from the children, doesn't hug and kiss them," the Pope joked, according to Ansa.



Sledding on dry land

Using a four-wheel cart complete with steering, Klaas Stapers of a local dog sled team club runs his 10 Alaskan huskies through a dry land track on the outskirts of Rotterdam harbour, Jan 12. Despite poor snow conditions in Europe this winter, Stapers hopes to compete in an upcoming dog sled race in France. (Reuter wirephoto)

'Hostility totally misplaced'

Rushdie defends himself

LONDON, Jan 15. (Agencies): Author Salman Rushdie is pressing his publishers to bring out a paperback edition of "The Satanic Verses," arguing in a rare interview published today that Muslim hostility toward the book "is totally misplaced."

Rushdie, who has been in hiding under police guard since Iranian leader Ayatollah Khomeini ordered his execution 11 months ago, was quoted by the Guardian newspaper as saying he did not foresee any immediate change in his situation.

"One would wish the thing to come to an end," he was quoted as telling the London daily. "But I'm not the maker of the problem."

Rushdie was also quoted as saying, "I think if some of the people who protested about the book took the trouble to read it, they would see that it is not unsympathetic to them."

More than 1.2 million hardback copies of the novel have been sold since September 1988, but Viking Penguin has yet to bring out a paperback edition.

"The paperback should be published," Rushdie was quoted as saying. "As for my own feelings, you can draw your own conclusions."

Ayatollah Khomeini, the Iranian spiritual leader who died last June, declared the book to be blasphemous to Islam, and on Feb 15 urged Muslims to kill the Indian-born British author and his publishers. The Iranian leadership also offered a \$5.2 million bounty.

"It would be impossible not to be affected by this degree of hostility, which is totally misplaced," Rushdie was quoted as saying. "I am not the enemy of my own people. I do not feel like the enemy of my people."

Rushdie declined to discuss his security arrangements, but was quoted as saying, "you shouldn't assume I have very much freedom at all."

Rushdie, 42, said he is writing a children's novel, which he hopes to finish in March, and has been buoyed by support from friends and readers.

"It's nice to know there is something other than anger aimed at me," he was quoted as saying. "I do get a great many letters of support, including some from Muslims who've read the book."

Before splitting with her husband in July, Rushdie's American wife, Marianne Wiggins, said they had been moved constantly by their guards and slept in 56 different beds while in hiding together.

In the interview, Rushdie urged that his publisher, Viking Penguin, should issue "The Satanic Verses" in paperback. British bookshops stocking the hardcover edition have been the target of bomb threats and arson attacks.

Asked whether he planned to write a book about his present situation, Rushdie replied: "It's not a question I can really begin to think about at the moment. In the future, who knows?"

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Mission accomplished

Shuttle crew turn to daily work



Space shuttle astronaut Marsha Ivins (top) works with a bread mould experiment aboard the Columbia, Jan 14, during the sixth day in Earth orbit. Astronaut Bonnie Dunbar (bottom) prepares to take photographs through windows on the Columbia. (Reuters wirephoto)

College education Ratio drops

WASHINGTON, Jan 15, (UPI): The percentage of minority young people attending college has plummeted since the mid-1970s, and the decline surprisingly has been as sharp for middle-class students as poor ones, a report said yesterday.

The American Council on Education Study said the percentage of white young people going to college, meanwhile, has increased, "widening the long-standing college-participation gap between whites and African Americans and Hispanics."

"Since the mid-1970s, the college participation of African Americans and Hispanics has been a picture not of progress, but of major regression," said the "Eight annual status report on minorities in higher education."

The study attributed the decline at least partly to a shift in helping students pay for college with loans instead of grants, higher college admission standards and increasing numbers of young black men from middle-income and upper-income backgrounds joining the military.

The study said between 1976 and 1988 the percentage of low-income black high school graduates going on to college declined from 40 per cent to 30 per cent and the percentage of low-income Hispanics fell from 50 per cent to 35 per cent, "indicating an educational failure rate of intolerable magnitude."

Hate crimes on the rise

Old problem, new attention

NEW YORK, Jan 15, (AP): Bombings in the south and random acts of violence and vandalism across the country have given rise to fears that a new wave of racially and ethnically motivated crime is sweeping the United States.

Nearly every day brings a fresh report from somewhere:

- From Portland, Oregon, where skinheads were charged with beating a 15-year-old Hispanic girl;

- From Wellesley, Massachusetts, where two young men were arrested for spray-painting swastikas and racist slogans on walls;

- From New York City, where a gang of white youths was charged with killing a black man who crossed into their turf.

New organisations have sprung up to fight racism, and police, judges and legislators are taking a harder look at what they can do to prevent such crime.

But among those who closely monitor what are commonly called "hate crimes," there is disagreement about whether racism is really resurgent. Some argue that only the reporting of racial crime has increased, not the crime itself.

"The paradox is that the better you are at reporting the worse your picture is going to look," said Col. Leonard Supenski, who heads the police crime prevention bureau in Baltimore county, Maryland. Supenski speaks from experience. His police department was one of the first in the nation to begin reporting hate crimes in a category of their own.

Baltimore county has kept statistics on racial, religious and ethnic incidents since 1979, and its figures show a slight increase last year after four years of decline.

The increase could be the result of a more sensitive police force, quicker to recognise a racist motive behind a crime. It could be the result of a more trusting public, more likely to report a crime. Or it could just be part of what Supenski calls the "ebb and flow" of crime.

Only a handful of cities around the nation have kept track of hate crimes for very long; one is New York City, where "bias crimes" were down slightly during the first 10 months of 1989. They had been down sharply until Aug 23, when a gang of whites surrounded a 16-year-old black youth, Yusuf Hawkins, and shot him to death on a Brooklyn street. Ripples of lesser racial incidents — tauntings, beatings — spread across the city.

Inspector Paul M. Sanderson, who heads the New York police department's bias crime unit, isn't persuaded that racist crime is really changing. "There is no pattern," he said.

Still, there are others who say racist crime is getting worse. They see neo-Nazi skinheads pumping new life into the Ku Klux Klan, they hear about racism sprouting on college campuses, and they can tick off lists of violent incidents around the country that have nothing in common but their motive — prejudice.

One such person is Bill Tafoya, who teaches long-range planning at the FBI academy in Quantico, Virginia. His specialty is civil disorder.

Tafoya believes the increase is real and says other researchers agree.

Besides, police have become interested in hate



KKK meet despite prohibition

A small girl carries a cross as she joins her father during a Ku Klux Klan gathering on the courthouse square in Tennessee despite a court order prohibiting their meeting, Jan 13. The Klan had sought a parade permit to protest against Martin Luther King Day. (Reuters wirephoto)

crime — Tafoya knows because he's constantly asked to lecture to them.

More police departments around the nation are beginning to follow the lead of Baltimore county, New York City and Boston — pioneers in establishing special programmes to fight hate crime.

Minneapolis started a bias crime programme in 1987; Philadelphia, San Francisco and Portland, Oregon, are among other cities that now pay special attention to hate crime.

Most such programmes have two basic goals: to keep separate reports on hate crimes so that investigators can spot patterns, and to assure the public that such crimes will not be tolerated.

"If the people don't have a sense that they can go to the police, and go to the courts, they're going to go to the streets," explained Sgt. Bill Johnston, who directs the Boston police department's community disorders unit.

Reporting is considered especially important. There are no national statistics on hate crime now, which is one reason that people disagree about it. A bill pending in Congress would require the justice department to collect such data.

In the meantime, at least 10 states have passed laws in the past few years requiring their police departments to collect data on hate crimes. And lawmakers are finding other ways to battle racist crime.

Bogota holds cartel mercenaries

BOGOTA, Jan 15, (AP): The army has arrested more than 1,000 people in an attempt to dismantle the private army of the chief of the Medellin cocaine cartel, reports said yesterday.

The army operation against the head of the Medellin cartel, Pablo Escobar, came at the Justice Ministry ordered the arrest of Gilberto Rodriguez Orejuela, chief of the cartel centered around the western city of Cali.

An attempt to extradite Rodriguez to the United States two years ago collapsed when a judge ruled there was no merit to the charges that he smuggled 20 tonnes of cocaine into the

United States.

A new attempt to extradite Rodriguez is based upon charges of laundering money coming from cocaine sales in the United States, the Justice Ministry said in a communiqué yesterday.

The Cali Cartel is based in the western city of Cali.

There were conflicting versions over the number of people detained in the northwestern city of Medellin, where the army was combing poor areas known to be the source of gunmen for Escobar's army of hired killers.

The Colombian Radio Network RCN said yesterday, quoting army sources, that the operation has resulted in the arrest of 1,800 persons.

The Bogota daily *El Tiempo*, the nation's largest and most reliable, quoted Army Gen. Harold Bedoya Pizarro as saying the army has arrested 2,500 persons belonging to 150 gangs working for Escobar.

The Defence Ministry was closed yesterday, and the reports could not be confirmed.

In Medellin, 28 people have been kidnapped in the last two months. Drug traffickers issued a

communiqué Jan 4 encouraging people in poor neighbourhoods to fight on the side of the cartels.

The communiqué urged people in slum areas to kidnap wealthy Colombians and hold them for ransom. Half the money would go for decent housing for the poor, and half for the Medellin Cartel's war on the government, the communiqué said.

Escobar has built hundreds of brick and cinderblock houses for the poor in Medellin slums, replacing shanties of scrap wood and tar paper.

Latam agrees on drug accord

SANTA CRUZ, Bolivia, Jan 15, (AP): The United States and the cocaine-producing countries of Colombia, Peru and Bolivia yesterday, reached agreement on plans for a joint assault on narcotics trafficking.

The details of the plan are not to be made public until its scheduled signing Feb 15 at a "drug summit" of the four nations in Colombia.

A one-paragraph news release issued by chief delegates to the pre-summit meeting in Santa Cruz said they "achieved the goals" set for them and expected the four countries' presidents would adopt a "joint, integral and co-ordinated strategy against the serious problem of illegal drugs and their economic and social effects."

In a speech at the meeting's pre-dawn conclusion, Bolivian Foreign Minister Carlos Iturralde sketched out the agreement in general terms.

He said it recognised the three South American countries have pledged themselves to a full-fledged military campaign against the cocaine trade. In turn, the United States recognises these countries need more US economic aid.

The cocaine trade, although illegal, provides a substantial income to many residents of these developing countries.

Iturralde said the accord represented "an integral commitment by the four countries, which have proposed, carrying out a frontal and unstoppable assault on narcotics trafficking."

Iturralde's address came at 4:30 am, after wrangling forced a lengthy final session. Delegates said the delay was prompted by arguments over how US assistance should be directed and what conditions would be attached to it.

The United States insists that the flow of aid money depend on a country's dedication and performance in the anti-drug effort. The US delegation chief, deputy Assistant Secretary of State Michael Skol, told reporters at the meeting's end that he was happy with the agreement.

"We are very satisfied," Skol said. "We have prepared the way for a very successful summit." He declined to elaborate.

President George Bush of the United States, Virgilio Barco of Colombia and Jaime Paz Zamora of Bolivia are to sign the agreement at the summit in Cartagena, Colombia. Peruvian President Alan Garcia has said he will attend the summit only if US troops are withdrawn from Panama, but Peru plans high-level participation in any case.

Peruvian delegation chief Armando Lecaros, a Foreign Ministry sub-secretary, told reporters the conditions for Garcia's attendance of the summit were not discussed in Santa Cruz. "Nothing has changed," he told reporters.

Lecaros said the South American countries have persuaded the United States to "eliminate some of the conditions" applying to US aid. Other delegates, speaking on condition of anonymity, said the United States agreed to a request for aid in cases where the anti-drug campaign hurt a South American country's economy.

However, the producer countries in turn agreed to pursue sound economic policies as they quit their dependence on drug profits, delegates said.

"The money and goods from drug trafficking must be eliminated from our economies and replaced by legal sources of income," Iturralde said. At the same time, he added, "weapons and precursor chemicals must be efficiently controlled."

The high-powered arms used by drug mafias and the chemicals needed to refine coca into cocaine come mostly from outside the cocaine-producing countries.

Iturralde said the accord commits the South American countries to using "all the means they have available," including the armed forces, in the war on drug trafficking.



Mrs. King (centre) gets a hug from her son Martin Luther King III (right) while Jesse Jackson applauds. (Reuters wirephoto)

NEWS IN BRIEF

Mom charged in girl's slaying

A woman recently released from a psychiatric centre was charged Sunday with the stabbing murder of her 9-year-old daughter, whose body was found near a message written in blood and signed, "her mother."

Brenda Maxey, 38, was charged with first-degree murder, then taken to Cook County hospital for treatment of injuries suffered in an apparent suicide attempt, police said.

Maxey was taken into custody Saturday as she sat alone on a street about five blocks from the abandoned six-unit apartment building where police on Thursday found her daughter, Keisha, stabbed to death. (UPI)

Blind rape victim identifies

A legally blind woman was able to identify a 14-year-old as the youth who raped her by smelling his cologne and feeling his hands, authorities said Sunday.

The 24-year-old woman — whose eyesight is so poor she can distinguish only between light and dark — was raped in the laundry room of her north side apartment building Saturday night, police Lt. Lee Hamilton said. (UPI)

Bus collision kills 33

A freight train hit an overloaded bus at a railroad crossing on Sunday, killing at least 33 people and injuring 26 others, the Red Cross said.

Everyone on the bus, which has seats for only 45 passengers but was carrying 50, was either killed or injured, said Jose Luis Quintero, head of the Red Cross in Leon, 170 miles (275 km) northwest of Mexico City. (AP)

Duarte reported dying

Former Salvadoran President Jose Napoleón Duarte, who has incurable cancer, left Guatemala for home on Sunday, and his personal physician said Duarte was dying.

Carlos Armando Soto Gomez, Duarte's doctor, said the former president was accompanied by his wife Ines and son Alejandro. He flew home early Sunday afternoon on a Guatemalan Air Force jet, loaned by Guatemalan President Vincenzo Cerezo.

Soto Gomez said last Friday that the 64-year-old former president would travel to Washington on Jan 23 for cancer treatment at Walter Reed Army Medical Center. (AP)

Bush mourns death

President George Bush on Sunday expressed his condolences on the death of Hyman Schachet, saying the Houston rabbi had been an inspiration to him, the White House said.

Spokesman John Herrick said the President, staying the weekend at his Camp David retreat in Maryland's Catoctin Mountains, telephoned Schachet's wife, Barbara, to express his regrets on the rabbi's death on Friday in Houston.

Schachet, 82, was the Rabbi Emeritus of the Beth Israel Congregation in Houston. (Reuters)

UN meet on climate change

Scientists at an international meeting on climate change have said the burning of tropical forests contributes about a quarter of the "greenhouse gases" responsible for global warming.

The meeting, organised by the United Nations Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), was held at the University of Sao Paulo from Jan 9 to 11, but was closed to the news media. Reuters obtained a copy of the meeting's closing statement.

Participants said the meeting, which brought together dozens of experts from Latin America, Europe, the United States, Asia and Africa, highlighted the need to slow the destruction of the world's rapidly dwindling forests. (Reuters)

Giacarini offers to quit

Peruvian Defence Minister Julie Velasco Giacarini offered to resign on Sunday, official sources said, five days after leftist guerrillas gunned down his predecessor.

Velasco Giacarini, who assumed the post in May last year, handed in his resignation but President Alan Garcia did not immediately decide whether to accept it, said the sources, who are close to Garcia.

Leftist rebels assassinated former defence minister Enrique Lopez Alzueta outside a Lima shopping centre on Tuesday in an attack which stunned the nation and brought fresh criticism of Garcia's handling of guerrilla violence. (Reuters)

Sen. Joseph Clark, 88, dies

Former US Senator Joseph Clark, a civil rights advocate in Congress and champion of reform in Philadelphia, has died.

Clark, 88, died at his home Friday, said his wife, Iris.

In 1951, Clark became the city's first Democratic mayor in 63 years, ending a corruption-ridden Republican administration. Five years later, he was elected to the first of two terms in the Senate. He gained distinction as one of the earliest critics of the Vietnam war and a proponent of congressional reform. (AP)

"Peter Principle" author dies

Laurence J. Peter, whose "Peter Principle" held that bureaucratic problems often occur because employees routinely are promoted beyond their competence, has died at the age of 70.

Peter, who suffered from heart trouble and a stroke, died in his sleep at his Palos Verdes home, his wife, Irene, said Sunday.

Peter and Raymond Hull wrote the 1969 best-seller, "The Peter Principle: Why Things Always Go Wrong," a satirical chronicle of incompetence based on Peter's experience with educational and other bureaucracies.

According to Peter, every employee in a hierarchy tends to be promoted as long as he can do his job to his superior's satisfaction. (AP)

Disney to build new theme park, Soviet pavilion

LAKE BUENA VISTA, Florida, Jan 15, (AP): A fourth theme park, a Soviet pavilion and seven new hotels will be among major projects to be built during a decade of rapid expansion at Florida's Disney World, Disney chairman Michael Eisner has announced.

The 1990s also will feature the entertainment conglomerate's venture into time-share vacation units, and it plans to open 29 new attractions at its three existing Florida parks: The Magic Kingdom, Epcot Centre and Disney-MGM Studios.

Walt Disney Co. already has plans to open Euro Disneyland near Paris and to build studion attractions at its Japanese and California parks during the next few years, among other additions, Eisner said. On Friday, Disney said it is studying the possibility of opening another southern California theme park.

"But this is the place where the 'Disney decade' will have the most impact," he said yesterday.

Eisner would not put a price tag on any of the new projects but said each "must give the Walt Disney Co. the required return on investment."



Four killed in explosion

A forensic specialist takes the fingerprints of one of four individuals killed Jan 14 in an explosion in San Salvador. (Reuter wirephoto)

Salvador bishop praises Cristiani

SAN SALVADOR, Jan 15, (AP): San Salvador's auxiliary bishop, in yesterday's homily, praised President Alfredo Cristiani for identifying four officers and five soldiers suspected of murdering six Jesuit priests.

However, Monsignor Gregorio Rosa Chavez urged further steps to end the cycle of violence in the country's 10-year civil war between the US-backed government and leftist rebels.

About 70,000 people, most of them civilians, have been killed.

"Now that Mr Cristiani has made public the names of those implicated," the possibility that El Salvador will regain confidence in its institutions has grown," the bishop said.

But, he added, "it's not enough to punish some. It is necessary to completely revise the criteria to define who are really enemies of the people and enemies of the nation.

"This seems like a good start, but it's not the end."

Cristiani announced Saturday that an army colonel, three lieutenants and five enlisted men were suspected in the November killings.

Eight of the suspects, he said, "have been placed at the disposition of the special investigative commission" looking into the murders. Cristiani said a ninth suspect, a private, deserted from the armed forces last month and was a fugitive.

Cristiani's planned trip to Washington this week has been postponed, a government spokesman said yesterday. The spokesman said Cristiani changed his plans because UN Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar was unable to meet with him as scheduled.

Cristiani did not say specifically on Saturday that the eight suspects had been arrested, but sources close to the investigation said the men were indeed under arrest. They have not yet been formally charged.

The colonel was identified as Guillermo Alfredo Benavides Moreo. He is the highest-ranking military officer to be officially accused of a human rights violation in the decade of government-rebel fighting.

Rosa Chavez said the government "has insisted that this be treated simply as a group of members of the army who have blemished the honour of the military." He added, "it is difficult for us to accept this conclusion."

"We realise that the mission of the church, especially in the countryside promoting human rights, is misunderstood by the military world," the bishop said.

■ A US officer heard a rumour that the Salvadorean armed forces were involved in the murder of six Jesuit priests but did not have advanced knowledge of the killings, the US Defence Department said yesterday.

Pentagon spokesman Rick Oborn said the officer, who he declined to identify, bearded the rumour more than a month after gunmen massacred the priests on Nov 16 in San Salvador.

The officer has now provided Salvadorean authorities with a written statement. He did not pass on the information because he thought the authorities already had it, the spokesman said.

Noriega once praised

500 Cubans seek US asylum

Cuban envoy detained briefly

PANAMA CITY, Jan 15, (AP): For the second time since the Dec 20 US invasion, US soldiers briefly detained the Cuban Ambassador to Panama yesterday.

Also yesterday, about 500 Cubans asked for asylum in the United States, and former president Manuel Solis Palma reportedly was waiting in the Venezuelan embassy for word on his petition for asylum in that country.

Solis Palma had served as Panama's nominal leader last year, while Manuel Antonio Noriega effectively controlled the country through its military.

The Cuban consul said yesterday that US soldiers were holding the Cuban Ambassador, Lazaro Mora Secada, and two other officials of the Cuban Embassy.

A US Embassy official confirmed the report but said the ambassador was later released. "It's been resolved," the official said by telephone, without elaborating on the reasons for the detention.

Since 1:45 pm about 22 soldiers detained the ambassador at a roadblock beside the embassy, Jose Luis Mendez, the Cuban consul, said by telephone.

"The ambassador was going home in a vehicle with diplomatic plates," Mendez said. "They took his passport and would not let him leave because he didn't let them check them."

Soon after the invasion, Mora was stopped by US forces and went with them to obtain documents for another embassy employee travelling with him.

The Cuban Embassy has given refuge to Noriega's family since he was deposited in the Dec 20 US invasion. The Panamanian government of Guillermo Endara, which replaced Noriega, has refused to allow the family to leave for exile in the Dominican Republic.

Noriega sought refuge in the Vatican Embassy on Christmas Eve and surrendered to US forces 10 days later. He is awaiting trial on drug charges in Miami.

Hector Higuera, vice president of the Cuban Refugees Commission of Panama, said the 500 refugees are asking the US and Panamanian governments "that they give their technical and material support... for the United States to urgently accept their immigration."

Higuera said the Cuban refugees do not have permission to work and have no rights in Panama. He said that under a deal between Cuba and the deposed Noriega government, the Cubans paid \$8,000 to \$25,000 to come to Panama as a transit point to the United States.

■ Panama has asked the United States for \$700 million to help rebuild businesses looted during the US invasion and \$35 million to rebuild the area around the blasted headquarters of Noriega, President Guillermo Endara said yesterday.

to smuggle narcotics themselves using light planes. But in 1984, Noriega's interests clashed with those of the Medellin cartel.

Noriega, the panel said, had permitted the cartel to establish cocaine processing plants in Panama, including one at La Palma in Darien province near the Colombian border.

It alleged that Noriega accepted \$5 million from the drug cartel to protect the facility.

But in mid-May 1984, concerned about pressure from the DEA, Noriega ordered his soldiers to raid the plant and arrest its employees.

Feeling betrayed, the cartel's leaders ordered Noriega's assassination, the panel said, quoting a Noriega associate, former Panamanian intelligence official Jose Blandon.

Blandon testified that Noriega turned to Cuban Premier Fidel Castro, and accepted Castro's recommendation that he return the \$5 million and the plant machinery and release the 23 persons who had been arrested.

US law enforcement agencies continued to view Noriega as a friend of the United States, the subcommittee said.

Chinese consider taking flight

BEIJING, Jan 15, (AP): Wang has a wife and baby, a secure government job and no particular interest in politics. Until recently, he never thought about leaving China.

But since June he has become obsessed with the idea, to the point that he says he can hardly concentrate on his work. He and a friend spend hours debating the best way to leave. They think it's best to leave as a student and that the best place to go is Australia.

If he succeeds, he will leave behind his wife and child, probably never to return. "She understands," Wang said. "She knows I can't live here."

Uncalculated thousands of China's best-educated people, many of them young, have reached the same conclusion since June, when the Chinese Army opened fire on pro-democracy protesters in Beijing.

Their idealistic dreams of saving China shattered, many students now say they are only interested in saving themselves from political repression, cultural tedium and economic hardships of socialist China.

Study abroad was popular before June.

What has changed is that now virtually everyone with a college degree and many without one are talking about it, even those with little or no foreign language skills.

Schemes for getting overseas are getting wilder, too. An artist talked one week of seeking an invitation to exhibit his work abroad. The next week he proposed finding a foreign woman to marry.

"I can't paint in this environment," he said.

The US embassy said the number of applications for Chinese government-sponsored study abroad has dropped. But the number of non-government students has jumped by one-third compared to the previous year, with 2,424 receiving visas in the fiscal year that ended Sept 30.

The number of Chinese going to visit relatives already studying in the United States more than tripled, to 321 in the last three months.

Student applications to go to Canada, another popular destination, topped 3,000 from June through December, up more than

50 per cent from the same period in 1988, the Canadian embassy said.

Many of those now trying to leave say they are not interested in politics, and many did not actively take part in the pro-democracy protests that preceded the June crackdown. But they sympathised with the protesters' demands for a free society and regard the deluge of political rhetoric since June as the last straw.

A college graduate acknowledged that many people seek riches abroad, but she said money is only one factor in a quality-of-life equation that includes less bureaucracy, more personal freedom and professional fulfillment.

Suggestions that China cannot reform or advance if its brightest youth go abroad rouse little interest. One repeat applicant at the US embassy, one of few Chinese in his field, shrugged and said, "We can't do anything here now."

The embassy tries to screen out anyone they suspect will not return to China.

Hong Kong must face China reality: Hurd

UK pledges support, calls for talks

HONG KONG, Jan 15, (UPI): British Foreign Secretary Douglas Hurd pledged continuing support for Hong Kong today but said the British colony must face up to the reality that it would revert to China in 1997.

"We (Britain) must do what we can to ensure the final chapter in our long administration of Hong Kong is an honourable one and one which ends successfully," he told businessmen.

"The basis of the future is not independence. But the basis of the future is one country, two systems," he said, referring to communist

China's pledge to continue Hong Kong's capitalist system for at least 50 years after 1997. "We have to make it work."

Hurd, in an upbeat speech to Chamber of Commerce members, called for a continued dialogue between Britain and China, glossing over political friction between the two nations over Hong Kong.

Hurd said democratic reform in Hong Kong before 1997 was a matter for Britain and Hong Kong to decide — not China.

The direct election of lawmakers to Hong Kong's legislature has been of particular concern to Beijing, which wants to limit the number to 18

Amnesty criticism of HK rejected

HONG KONG, Jan 15, (Reuter):

The human rights group Amnesty International today strongly criticised Britain and Hong Kong for the treatment of Vietnamese boat people, saying it had evidence of brutal behaviour by police and prison guards.

The Hong Kong government denied Amnesty's allegations as "unfounded."

A report by Amnesty investigators who visited the British colony in November and December said some of the 51 boat people forcibly repatriated by Hong Kong in the dead of night last month had been brutally treated down.

"We had to balance our wish to be as generous as possible against our ability to accept people for settlement in Britain should that ever be necessary," he said, defending London's decision to grant right of abode to all 3.25 million British overseas passport holders in the colony's top talent to leave.

Hurd's four-day visit to Hong Kong, which began Saturday, is his first since taking office. His trip followed China's condemnation of a plan to grant British citizenship to up to 225,000 Hong Kong people in a bid to restore public confidence shattered by China's brutal crackdown on democracy forces in June.

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Talks on ending apartheid

Former African National Congress (ANC) secretary-general Walter Sisulu and his wife Albertina arrive at Johannesburg's Jan Smuts airport shortly before leaving South Africa for Zambia today for talks on ending apartheid with exiled leaders of the outlawed ANC. (Reuter wirephoto)

Sisulu to hold talks in Zambia

JOHANNESBURG, Jan 15. (AP): Eight black nationalists, six released from jail only three months ago, left South Africa for Zambia today for talks on ending apartheid with exiled leaders of the outlawed African National Congress (ANC).

Former ANC secretary-general Walter Sisulu, 77, and his colleagues received a jubilant send-off at Jan Smuts airport from a cheering and chanting crowd of supporters, including Winnie Mandela, wife of Sisulu's jailed comrade Nelson Mandela.

"The whole world is waiting with bated breath for our discussions... about ending apartheid," Sisulu told reporters.

The elderly activists were accompanied by leading figures of the ANC's younger generation, who continued the fight against Pretoria's white minority rule during the quarter-century Sisulu spent behind bars.

It is their first visit to the movement's headquarters since last October when the six were unconditionally released from life jail terms for plotting to overthrow white rule.

In the Zambian capital, ANC leaders prepared a warm welcome for their comrades.

"Today is one of my greatest days in my 20 years in exile," said an ANC official waiting at Lusaka airport with Zambian government officials and diplomats.

ANC sources said the agenda for the week-long meeting would include: Mandela's release, expected within weeks, the future leadership of the movement and the programme of apartheid reform launched by President F.W. De Klerk.

Masked men blast complex in Corsica

BASTIA, Corsica, Jan 15. (AP): Masked men bearing firearms evacuated the residents of a holiday complex yesterday and blew up about 60 vacation cabins, police said.

Investigators reported no injuries. The letters FNLC, for the Corsican National Liberation Front, were scratched into the hood of a car parked at the entrance of the complex.

The masked men entered Corseane Foret and Corsicana village, which caters to nudists, on the eastern side of the Mediterranean island about 8 am (0700 GMT) yesterday, police said.

The approximately 60 masked men rounded up some 50 people from the cabins and beaches, bound their hands and held them at an empty restaurant closed for the winter, police said.

The detained people included West Germans, English, Belgians and Chileans, police said.

The hommiers then tied explosives to bottles of gas and blew up about 60 of the 108 cabins at the camps at about noon (1100 GMT).

Mandela for free market

Policy reversal

JOHANNESBURG, Jan 15. (AP): Imprisoned nationalist leader Nelson Mandela favours retaining South Africa's free market economy after years of backing plans for a state-run economy, reports said today.

Several Johannesburg newspapers quoted leading black businessman Richard Maponya as saying Mandela told him he was "definitely inclined towards a free enterprise system" rather than nationalisation or state control of industries.

The two men, who are close friends, met recently at Victor Verster Prison where Mandela is being held, but the reports did not say when the two met.

Mandela in the past has supported an economic programme calling for the nationalisation of mines, banks and other key sectors of the economy as ways to advance majority rule.

The reports said Mandela now sees free market forces as the best way of providing for the needs of the nation's rapidly expanding population.

"He was concerned as to whether black people were getting themselves geared up to take up opportunities as they arose," Maponya was quoted as saying.

"I told him of the training of quite a number of young entrepreneurs and he said this was a very good thing."

Meanwhile, seven formerly imprisoned veterans of the outlawed African National Congress planned to leave today for Zambia for talks with exiled ANC leaders about the prospects for opening negotiations with the South African government, an ANC spokesman said.

Following talks in Lusaka, the ANC officials are expected to go to Europe for a series of meetings in European capitals. The seven also are scheduled to meet Oliver Tambo, the ailing 72-year-old ANC president who suffered a stroke last August and was recently moved from a London clinic to a Stockholm, Sweden, hospital.

The meeting heralds another significant step toward negotiations between the minority government of President Frederik de Klerk and the leadership of the black majority on how to resolve the country's protracted racial conflict.

Offer of safe return to Sweden

Wallenbergs refused

STOCKHOLM, Jan 15. (Reuter): Diplomat Raoul Wallenberg turned down a chance to return safely to Sweden only one week before he was captured by Soviet troops, a wartime colleague was quoted yesterday as saying.

Wallenberg said he could not leave Hungary until he had done everything in his power to save as many Jews as possible from deportation to Nazi death camps, diplomat Per Anger told the Evening Express newspaper.

Anger's references to meetings with Adolf Eichmann and the large quantity of US dollars he possessed, may have convinced Soviet authorities that Wallenberg was a Nazi agent, Anger said.

Expressen published long extracts from Wallenberg's desk diary and his address book showing the Budapest telephone number of Eichmann, one of Adolf Hitler's chief aides in the campaign to exterminate Jews.

When Soviet troops entered Budapest at the beginning of 1945, everyone from the Swedish legation left the building to seek refuge elsewhere — except Wallenberg.

"He was so involved in the rescue of Jews he simply could not turn away," Anger, now a retired ambassador, told Expressen.

Anger said Wallenberg received large sums from the war refugee board in Washington and held more than \$1,000 when he was seized.

Suspected Pretoria couple commit suicide

PRETORIA, Jan 15. (AP): A man and a woman suspected of abducting several schoolgirls committed suicide today after a high-speed chase, police said.

The couple was pursued in their car by police officers who had placed their house in Pretoria under surveillance as part of an investigation into the Jan 11 abduction of a 16-year-old girl.

Police said the girl escaped over the weekend from the house, where she allegedly had been kept prisoner and sexually assaulted.

Police said investigation into the whereabouts of

China reduces US embassy vigilance

BEIJING, Jan 15. (AP): Chinese police reduced surveillance around the US embassy to its lowest level since June, an embassy spokesman said today prompting speculation of an accord on a Chinese dissident who took refuge inside.

However, embassy spokesman Sheridan W. Bell moved to squelch such talk, saying the Chinese gave no reason for their move.

"If a secret agreement has been reached, it's a secret to me," he said.

Romania treads a delicate course

BUCHAREST, Jan 15. (Reuter): Romania's revolutionary leaders, on a delicate course towards democracy after a weekend crisis, are preparing for a stream of Western visitors they hope will help rebuild the shattered economy.

West German Foreign Minister Hans-Dietrich Genscher today meets provisional government leaders who took power after the overthrow of dictator Nicolae Ceausescu last month.

He will have talks with interim President Ion Iliescu, Prime Minister Petre Roman and other officials to find out how best West Germany can help Romania meet its most urgent needs.

Foreign Minister Segi Celac told the European Economic Community's external affairs commissioner Frans Andriessen in Bucharest yesterday that Romania desperately needed food for its people and fodder to save its livestock.

Ceausescu wiped out a \$20-billion foreign debt over eight years by almost eliminating imports from hard-currency countries, pushing most of Romania's 23 million people to the brink of starvation.

Ruined National Salvation Front (NSF) leaders faced their first major crisis at the weekend trying to satisfy demands for political reform.

About 10,000 angry demonstrators besieged NSF headquarters in central Bucharest on Friday shouting "down with communism" and "death to the terrorists" — a reference to Ceausescu's hated secret police who killed several thousand revolutionaries and troops.

In an attempt to placate the crowd, Iliescu announced the banning of the discredited Communist Party which ruled the lives of Romanians for four decades.

But he reversed the decision 24 hours later after coming under fire for acting too hastily and giving in to mob rule.

Iliescu appealed for patience and national unity, saying anarchy could lead only to dictatorship.

But they were headed not for ancient temples to be confirmed as adults in religious or cultural rites. Their destination: local municipal offices where they took part in brief ceremonies commemorating Coming-Of-Age day, a national holiday in Japan. (AP)

NSF spokesman Adrian Sirbu said yesterday public trials of leaders of the Ceausescu government and members of the Securitate secret police would open this week.

■ Romania's new vice-president Dumitru Mazilu said today he was taking legal action over press attacks linking him to the hated security police of executed dictator Nicolae Ceausescu.

Bucharest radio broadcast a statement by Mazilu after the leading daily Romania Libera (free Romania) published two harshly-worded articles over the weekend calling for his dismissal.

"Besides unjustified criticism I was the target of repeated callous slanders."

"I want to exercise my right to start court proceedings against Romania Libera and all the individuals involved in this campaign," Mazilu's statement said.

His future in the ruling National Salvation Front appeared to be in jeopardy after the attacks but the front spokesman said today Mazilu's position was safe.

The front says Securitate fanatics killed up to 10,000 soldiers and civilian insurgents.

■ Increasingly active Romanian exiles in Switzerland demanded today the dismissal of Romania's ambassador on grounds he represented and backed the former regime of dictator Nicolae Ceausescu.

A 30-member committee set up by the some 2,000 exiles had previously engaged Swiss lawyer Moritz Leutwyler to get Switzerland to block gold and money reportedly hidden by Ceausescu in Swiss bank accounts.

six other missing teen-age girls would continue, but might be hampered by the deaths of the man and woman — Cornelius Van Rooyen, 52, and Johanna Haarhoff, 48.

They were found dead of gunshot wounds in their car after police had shot out the vehicle's tires during a chase through Pretoria.

According to witnesses, some of the girls who have disappeared in recent months were last seen entering a mini-bus driven by a blonde woman. Police said a mini-bus was found at the house in Pretoria.

Police said investigation into the whereabouts of

Astrophysicist Fang Lizhi and his wife fled to the embassy in June when China cracked down on pro-democracy protesters. Since then, their presence at the embassy has been a major irritant in US-Chinese relations.

However, neither side has acknowledged even holding talks on the Fangs, for whom the Chinese have issued arrest warrants as "counter-revolutionaries." China said last week that the "only way out" for the couple was to plead guilty.

The Fangs' presence has prompted heavy Chinese surveillance since June at the main embassy building and at the ambassador's residence several blocks away. The United States has not said in which compound the Fangs are living.

The surveillance peaked in early November, when dozens of uniformed plain-clothes police watched the compounds' gates, and their black Mercedes with dark windows and no license plates lined the

blocks.

The number of police dropped gradually in November, reaching a new low late last week, according to Bell. The main embassy building was guarded today by only five uniformed police with automatic pistols while three guarded the ambassador's residence.

Only one police car was sighted in the area — an unmarked Mercedes with two men inside that was parked on a sidewalk.

Modrow appeals for end to strikes

Prices of children's clothing rise: rents may go up

EAST BERLIN, Jan 15. (AP): Premier Hans Modrow, bowing to opposition pressure, took part today in negotiations between his Communist Party and the opposition, as he appealed for an end to strikes in the troubled nation.

East Germans began paying higher prices for children's clothing and related articles, and the finance minister said apartment rents were also likely to be increased by an unspecified amount.

The communist premier initially had said he was rejecting opposition demands for an appearance at today's session of the talks, but faced

criticism from pro-democracy groups over the weekend.

Modrow appealed for understanding calm and called on representatives of the 16 political parties and groups present to co-operate in solving the nation's troubles.

"Public life must not be disturbed by strikes," Modrow said during the session broadcast live on East German television.

In recent days, East Germany has been hit by politically motivated strikes in various parts of the country, including Erfurt and East Berlin. The strikes were aimed at pressuring the communists to give up their grip on power and to finally abolish the hated secret police.

He called for an end to such warning strikes to ensure that the country's economy functions "without disturbances and productively."

Modrow also pledged to take part in next week's session of the talks, countering opposition allegations he was not taking the negotiations seriously.

There have been doubts as to whether Modrow's coalition can survive until the democratic elections scheduled for May 6. Modrow already bowed to previous opposition pressure last week by scrapping plans to form a new secret police agency.

Markus Meckel, a leader of the influential Social Democratic Party, praised Modrow's decision to appear at the session.

Meckel said during his response at the talks that Modrow's statement provided the basis to "ensure the government's work and competence" until the elections.

Yesterday, several hundred thousand people turned out for ceremonies commemorating the 1919 murders of two heroes of the German left into a nationwide show of force.

For the first time, the ceremonies marking the deaths of Rosa Luxemburg and Karl Liebknecht were not controlled by the Communist Party, leading to dozens of locally organised events.

In central East Berlin, a rally organised by the Social Democrats turned into an anti-communist protest. Banners accused the communists of lies and corruption.

In Magdeburg, a protest by tens of thousands of people included calls for the removal of communists from Dominance, the state-run news agency ADN said. Demonstrators marched to the local party headquarters, where they slapped anti-communist leaflets on the door and hoisted a West German flag. ADN said.

Protests were also reported in Karl-Marx-Stadt and Suhl.

Modrow also appealed to opposition leaders to help stem the daily flood of East Germans to the West, saying the new government could not work miracles within a few weeks.

■ East Germany's hated security police had more than 100,000 informers and employed thousands more people stealing open mail and tapping telephones across the country, a government said today.

Manfred Sauer, a representative of prime minister, said at talks between the opposition and government parties that the former ministry of state security's budget last year was 3.6 billion marks (\$2.1 billion).

Sauer was briefing the meeting on the disbanding of the ministry's successor organisation, the office for national security.

"These 100,000 unofficial informants are no longer being contacted and receive no orders. They are no longer active," he said.

Of the 85,000 full-time employees, 30,000 have already been made redundant or re-employed in other ministries or sectors. All others will be dismissed soon, but about 12,500 will remain until the service is entirely broken up, Sauer said.

■ Ambitious regional Premier Oskar Lafontaine has surged ahead in the race to lead West Germany's opposition Social Democrats (SPD) into national elections against Chancellor Helmut Kohl.

■ East Germany's reform movement honoured fiery revolutionary Rosa Luxemburg yesterday, claiming back a popular heroine appropriated long ago by the hardline communist leadership.



Capitalist help

Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu of Japan said his government would consider giving credit guarantees worth up to \$850 million to aid Poland's transition to a market economy.

Japan and Poland also signed a previously announced agreement to provide a \$150-million credit to a stabilisation fund to back the Polish currency during the transition of the zloty to a convertible currency.

Japan also pledged to provide Poland with \$15 million that will be used to train Polish managers.

The signing ceremonies came on the first day of Kaifu's two-day visit, which was highlighted by a meeting and dinner with Solidarity leader Lech Walesa. Kaifu was met at Warsaw's Okęcia airport by Prime Minister Tadeusz Mazowiecki and other leading members of the Solidarity-dominated cabinet. Picture shows Kaifu (left) sharing a joke with Walesa in Warsaw. (Reuter wirephoto)

Talks open on Soviet troops cut in Prague

PRAGUE, Jan 15. (Reuter): Czechoslovakia and the Soviet Union began talks today on Prague's demand for withdrawal of all 75,000 Soviet troops by the end of the year.

The official Czechoslovak news agency CTK said the talks were being led by deputy Foreign Ministers Ivan Abrahim of the Soviet Union and Evzen Vacek of Czechoslovakia.

Soviet troops have been in Czechoslovakia since Warsaw Pact forces invaded in 1968 to end the short-lived liberal reform era of Alexander Dubcek.

MIDEAST

Iraq slams US for sanctions on Libya

BAGHDAD, Jan 15, (AP): Iraq denounced US President George Bush's decision to renew economic sanctions against Libya as a "wrong and harmful attempt to impose superpower will on a less powerful country."

Al Thawra, mouthpiece of the ruling Baath Socialist Party, said the US move should be totally rejected because it was "using international economic relations for political purposes."

"This is a form of interference in the internal affairs of other states and an attempt to infringe their national sovereignty," Al Thawra said in a front-page

editorial.

On Jan 4, Bush ordered a one-year extension to US economic sanctions imposed on Libya in 1986 for supporting international terrorism.

He told Congress that the crisis between the United States and Col. Muammar Khaddafi's regime has not yet been resolved.

He claimed Tripoli still supported terrorism and poses "an extraordinary threat" to US security and interests.

Reports in the Arab world indicate that Khaddafi has sent emissaries to Arab leaders asking them to use their influence

with Bush to lift the sanctions.

A Libyan envoy, armed forces commander Brig. Abu Baker Yums, visited Baghdad earlier this month and met President Saddam Hussein.

Iraqi officials declined comment on whether Baghdad has asked the United States to lift the sanctions or whether they were mediating between Tripoli and Washington.

Al Thawra warned that economic sanctions could increase tension and jeopardize international security.

"The United States should be the first to realize the consequences of such an act and

refrain from punishing states which have different views and stop checking other countries policies," the daily said.

Iraq calls for Arab solidarity and rejects superpower interference in the Arabs' internal affairs, it noted.

In Khartoum, Sudan, the government today also deplored the renewal of US economic sanctions against Libya.

The Foreign Ministry called on Bush to reconsider the decision, saying it was "a terrible blow to expectations and high hopes pinned on the prevailing international spirit of detente."

Israel 'will accept deportees in talks'

KUWAIT, Jan 15, (Agencies): Israel would accept participation of Jerusalem's Arabs and two Palestinian deportees in a proposed Israeli-Palestinian dialogue if Washington agreed to bolt its own dialogue with the PLO, a Kuwaiti newspaper reported today.

The newspaper, quoting unidentified US State Department sources, said Israel's Defense Minister Yitzhak Rabin, now visiting in the US, had relayed the Israeli condition to President George Bush's administration.

Israel has earlier been adamant in its opposition to the participation in the dialogue of Palestinians expelled from the occupied territories and Arabs of East Jerusalem considered by Israel as naturalized citizens.

Israel would now agree to the participation of two deportees and East Jerusalem's Arabs if Washington officially announced that its dialogue with the PLO was stopped.

Rabin, will seek written guarantees when he meets US Secretary of State James Baker that Washington would bring to an end its talks with the PLO.

Rabin told American officials he agrees in principle the intifada leadership should name eight of the 10 Palestinian negotiators to the dialogue with Israel, the paper said.

Egyptian Foreign Minister Esmat Abdel-Maguid will visit Washington this week to discuss Middle East peace moves, officials said.

They told Reuters he would deliver a message from President Mubarak on Cairo's efforts to bring Israel and Palestinians together in their first-ever dialogue.

US Secretary of State James



Police and Israeli settlers evacuate Hagit Avni, a female Israeli soldier after she was stabbed by assailants inside the walled Old City. (Reuter wirephoto)

Occupied areas for Soviet Jews: Shamir

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM, Jan 15, (AP): Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir said today that Israel needs to retain the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip, the focal point of the Middle East conflict, to settle an influx of Jews from the Soviet Union.

His suggestion that some of the estimated 300,000 Soviet Jews expected to move here following the tightening of US visa rules be settled in the occupied lands sparked anew the country's debate over trading land for peace.

"For a large immigration we need the land of Israel, a large and strong Israel," Shamir said. "We will need a lot of place to absorb everybody."

The statement, made last night before a group of old-timers from Shamir's right-wing Likud bloc in Tel Aviv, was broadcast today on Israeli radio.

Shamir came under immediate attack from the

left-leaning Labour Party, his partner in the coalition government which advocates trading some of the occupied land for peace.

"I do believe that a great Israel is an Israel that lives in peace, not ... in conflict," said Finance Minister Shimon Peres, leader of Labour Party. "A great immigration needs a great Israel, and to have a great immigration we need an Israel that has the greatness of peace."

Calls for settling Soviet immigrants in the occupied territories already has raised tensions with foreign funders and the US administration, which has repeatedly said that Jewish settlements in the occupied lands are an obstacle to peace.

Israeli officials say they need three billion US dollars to absorb 100,000 immigrants over the next three to five years.

Baker has urged the Egyptian and Israeli foreign ministers to meet him for preparatory talks in Washington; but it was not clear if Maguid would meet his Israeli

counterpart, Moshe Arens.

Israel has so far failed to respond formally to Baker's invitation. In Los Angeles Rabin described yesterday Palestinian

Rabin was on his way to see Baker but refused to say what he planned to discuss with him.

MIDEAST BRIEFS

Seoul, Algeria ties: South Korea set up full diplomatic ties with Algeria on Monday, the Foreign Ministry in Seoul announced.

An agreement to exchange ambassadors was being signed in New York by South Korea's Ambassador to the United Nations, Park Sang-Yong, and his Algerian counterpart, Hocine Djoudi, the ministry said in a statement. (Reuter)

Ankara smog closes schools: Smog gripped the Turkish capital on Monday. Schools closed, flights were disrupted and industries contributing to the pollution were ordered to reduce operations.

City health authorities ordered schools closed. Ankara Governor Saffet Arslan Boduk gave public workers with children at day-care nurseries a day off to keep them at home. (Reuter)

Soviet minister to visit Iran: Iranian Foreign Minister Ali Akbar Velayati said on Sunday a Soviet deputy foreign minister would visit Tehran soon to discuss Moscow's plans to mediate in peace talks with Iraq.

"After viewing the plan we will announce our final opinion," Tehran radio, monitored by the British Broadcasting Corporation, quoted Velayati as saying. He did not name the Soviet minister making the visit. (Reuter)

Sudanese rebels capture: Sudanese rebels said on Monday they had captured the southern town of Kaya from government forces, the second garrison to fall into their hands in just over a week. (Reuter)

Badran denies: Jordan's Prime Minister Mudhar Badran has denied his government's intention to dismantle the Jordanian Ministry of Information.

Badran's remarks came following a meeting yesterday with head and members of the Jordanian journalists' union. (Kuna)

Morocco crushes extremists

RABAT, Jan 15, (Reuter): Moroccan authorities have ordered the dissolution of the country's main Islamic fundamentalist movement and arrested most of its leaders, spokesman for the group said yesterday.

They said six leading members of the bureau of the Adl Wa Ihsane fundamentalist movement were arrested in Sale near Rabat on Saturday.

Dozens of other Muslim militants were taken into custody in various parts of the country during the past week, including a group of seven in the farming town of Sidi Yahia north of Rabat.

The leader of the movement, Abd Assalam Yassine, has been under house arrest at his home.

Students ransack police station: Students ransacked a campus police station in the central Tunisian town of Kairouan on Saturday, the Interior Ministry reported on Monday.

It said the students broke windows, destroyed documents and set fire to office furniture. Some of the students were arrested and would be charged. (Reuter)

Weizman wrong on Soviet ties: Israeli Foreign Ministry sources said on Sunday that Science Minister Ezer Weizman was mistaken when he announced in Moscow last week that the Soviet Union had agreed to upgrade relations to the level of legations. (Reuter)

Foot-and-mouth kills: An outbreak of foot-and-mouth disease in Tunisia has killed some 50,000 lambs since November but the disease is now under control, an Agriculture Ministry spokesman said on Monday.

The outbreak cost Tunisia about 2.5 million dinars (\$2.8 million), including one million dinars (\$1.1 million) spent on vaccines imported from France, he said. (Reuter)

Egypt's emergency laws stay: Egypt's newly-appointed interior minister on Monday ruled out an early end to emergency powers in force for the past eight years and which allow detainees to be held for a month at a time without trial. (Reuter)

Wali leaves for Tripoli: Egyptian agriculture and land reform Minister Yousef Wali Monday leaves Cairo for Tripoli to attend Arab agriculture ministers' conference due to convene in Libya Jan 16-18.

Wali, who is also deputy premier, said in a statement in Cairo last night that the conference will be an opportunity to hold bilateral discussions with Arab agriculture ministers to develop relations in this field. (Kuna)

Lebanon heads towards peace despite Aoun: Syria

DAMASCUS, Jan 15, (Agencies): Syria said today that Lebanon was heading towards peace despite attempts by Christian General Michel Aoun to hinder the process.

The paper said "gigantic" local, Arab and international support for President Elias Hirawi's government would help bring about the downfall of Aoun, who controls the Christian enclave and rejects Hirawi's authority.

Aoun has spurned an Arab-brokered peace pact for failing to guarantee withdrawal of Syria's 40,000 troops from Lebanon.

It can be said now that Lebanon today is heading towards peace, security and stability despite all attempts to hinder the sincere and good efforts by all parties concerned, the English-language paper said.

It said Hirawi should seek recruits to rebuild the armed popular committee was giving the peace plan worked out in Taif a last chance.

Contaminated food

Restaurants closed

BAGHDAD, Jan 15, (AP): Authorities have closed down four restaurants in one of Baghdad's major hotels because contaminated food has been served there, the official Iraqi news agency reported yesterday.

INA said the Babylon-Oberoi Hotel will be fined 500 dinars (\$1,500) for each restaurant after laboratory tests found that food was contaminated with salmonella and other bacteria.

It said health authorities investigated after several people suffered food poisoning at a New Year's day party.

INA quoted health officials as saying samples of meat, dairy products, vegetables and water were found to be contaminated.

A hotel source speaking on condition of anonymity, told the Associated Press that the allegations were false and that the restaurants were still open.

Decision on Turks visa: Interior Minister Franz Loeschnak has said the cabinet will probably decide on the question of visas for Turkish citizens on Tuesday.

Foreign Minister Alois Mock, speaking in western Austria, said that a decision on visas for Turks would be made within the next two weeks. (Kuna)

Warned of Jewish influx: An Arab league meeting on Palestinians in exile opened in Tunis on Monday with a warning that Israel was planning to settle hundreds of thousands of east European Jews in the occupied territories.

Mohammed Al Farra, the league's assistant secretary general for Palestinian affairs, told the meeting of Arab officials that Israel had set aside hundreds of millions of dollars for the new immigrants, mostly from the Soviet Union. (Reuter)

Katyusha rockets hit north Israel

OCUPIED JERUSALEM, Jan 15, (AP): Several Soviet-designed Katyusha rockets fired from South Lebanon landed in northern Israel before dawn today, causing no injuries or damage, the army said.

The army said the rockets landed in the Galilee "peninsula" that protrudes into Lebanon.

The last reported rocket attack from Lebanon was Nov 9.

Israel radio said the rockets were fired from north of Israel's self-declared "security zone."

Katyusha rockets hit north Israel

Arab mediators seeking an end to Lebanon's civil war met today in Algiers to discuss ways to save their seven-month peace effort from collapse.

The foreign ministers of Algeria, Saudi Arabia and Morocco discussed a report on progress since an Arab peace plan was accepted by Lebanon's Members of Parliament in October, an Algerian official said.

Full implementation of the plan has been blocked by Aoun who wants guarantees that Syria will withdraw its 40,000 troops from Lebanon.

The Algerian official said the ministers will report to their heads of state, who were mandated to undertake the peace bid by an Arab summit last May. The heads of state will decide the next move, he said.

The official Algerian news agency APS said the tripartite committee was giving the peace plan worked out in Taif a last chance.

Israel worries as its value as a strategic ally to US being questioned

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM, Jan 15, (AP): As Soviet tensions ease, Israel's value as a strategic ally is being questioned, and Israeli officials are concerned this could lead to cuts in military aid.

Mark Heller, a senior analyst at Tel Aviv University's Jaffee Centre for Strategic Studies, said the Soviets were likely to be less supportive of radical Arab governments and no longer viewed as a source of instability.

"There is no longer a common adversary," said Heller, suggesting aid cuts could ultimately result.

More conservative analysts disagree.

"As the perceived Soviet threat to the Middle East declines, so may the strategic value of Israel in the eyes of American policymakers," he said.

A major argument in providing Israel with \$1.8 billion a year in military aid has been its value as a strategic ally, one that could pre-position equipment, supply the US Sixth Fleet and be counted on in a show of force.

"There is no longer a common adversary," said Heller, suggesting aid cuts could ultimately result.

More conservative analysts disagree.

"They suggest Israel could become an even greater asset if the United States is forced to close down bases in Europe but wants to retain the ability to defend its interests against the whims of governments like

those of

ARAB TIMES GRAND



Competition No. 75

PRIZES

First Full House: KD 100

Second Full House: KD 60

Third Full House: KD 40

Top Line: KD 25

Four Corners: KD 25

Hurry! make sure you get your Arab Times

HOW TO PLAY

1. Solve the clue underneath the entry card (below) and enter the number that you think is the answer in the shaded square on the left-hand side of the card. This square must be completed.
2. Now select a further 14 numbers between 1 and 90 inclusive and enter these in the remaining open squares. You should now have 15 DIFFERENT numbers on your card. Please write them clearly, in ballpoint or ink.
3. Fill in your name and address in the

appropriate lines on the form, in block letters.

4. Make an exact copy of your 15 numbers on the copy card provided underneath, and keep it so that you can check off your numbers as they appear in the ARAB TIMES every day.
5. Register your Free Bingo entry by sending it to the ARAB TIMES. Read details below carefully.
6. Watch out for YOUR numbers each morning in the ARAB TIMES.

FREE BINGO

No. 75 ENTRY



ANSWER THIS CLUE IN THE SHADED SQUARE:

THIS DECADE

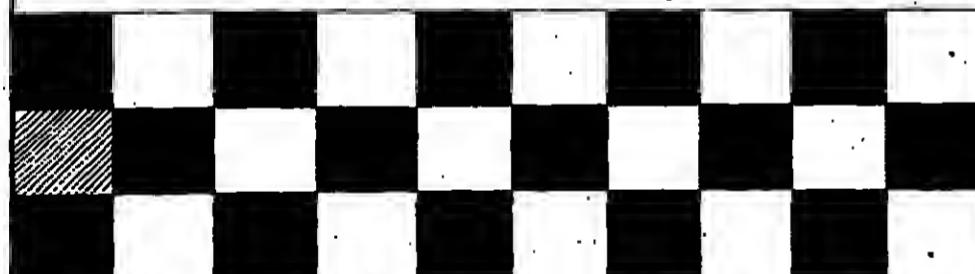
NAME (Mr./Mrs./Miss)

ADDRESS.....

IS YOUR NAME ON THE BACK OF THE ENVELOPE?

FREE BINGO

No. 75 COPY



RULES

1. There is no entry fee, but all entries must be on separate ARAB TIMES forms and only entries from one competitor may be enclosed in the same envelope.
2. The number of each day's list will be read from left to right with the left hand number being the first of the day. The order then continues to the right. Claimants with one number will have preference over claimants with two or more numbers.
3. All the claimants' entries will be opened at 1 pm on the day claims are made and depending upon the correct clue and all numbers checked being correct, the last number checked off by the claimant will be the criterion for awarding the prizes according to the priority of the number published on that day from left to the right.
4. If there is a tie, the winning name will be drawn from a hat.
5. The decision of the judges is final and no correspondence can be entered into. Employees of the Arab Times and Al-Seyassah Organisation and their families are not eligible to enter.
6. No responsibility can be accepted for delayed or missing entries, or altered or mutilated entries although the date stamped on envelopes will be accepted so long as it is prior to the competition starting date. Envelopes without names, initials on the back, initials in front, and those received after the closing time detailed on this form will be disqualified.
7. No numbers at any time will be told over the telephone.
8. Claims must be on the same day's numbers. Claims with previous day's numbers will not be entertained.

Is the initial of your surname in the front of the envelope?

PLEASE PRINT YOUR NAME ON THE BACK OF THE ENVELOPE AND INITIAL OF YOUR SURNAME ON THE LEFT HAND TOP CORNER IN FRONT.

This is essential for the speedy checking of claims. Entries received without names and initials as mentioned above will be disqualified.

When you have completed your entry

card and copy card and filled in your name and address, send in your entries by post, addressed to:

Bingo,
Arab Times,
P.O. Box 2270,
13023 Safat Kuwait.

A surer alternative is to deliver by hand to the Arab Times, Al-Seyassah Building, Airport Road, Shuwaikh.

Free industrial zone possible

No obligation for expats to find a Kuwaiti partner: study

A FREE industrial zone in Kuwait is possible according to a study published recently by the Ministry of Commerce and Industry.

The study underlined the fact that all elements to guarantee the successful operation of this project being abundantly available in Kuwait, it has created top-level concern for going ahead with the project.

The project, if undertaken, will reflect positively on the national economy at a time when Kuwait is striving hard to diversify its income sources and develop a strong economic system, the study said.

Reviewing the privileges offered by Kuwaiti laws to support the development of local industries as compared to those offered by the government of a neighbouring country, the study said that local industries were exempted from taxation.

The study said that land-plots were to be sold at 200 fils per square metre and

some duties were waived on machines, equipment, production necessities and spare parts to be used in the proposed free industrial zone.

The study further underscored the government's willingness to partly bear the cost of studies conducted to establish the economic feasibilities of industrial projects. The government offers credit facilities through the Industrial Bank of Kuwait along with the needed custom protection provided that wherever applicable, materials and equipment be purchased from national products.

The study said that the industrial law in Kuwait stipulates that 51 per cent of the shares of the industrial installations must be held by the Kuwaiti partner. No such stipulation will be enforced within the framework of the free industrial zone. Expatriates will have no obligation to find a Kuwaiti partner or a local sponsor and would be free to own the project indepen-

dently. This is contrary to the laws enforced in some countries in the region where a citizen must be a partner and also a specified percentage of citizens must be employed on the project.

The study concluded that the privileges offered by the government of Kuwait to promote local industries facilitated the encouragement of investment enterprises.

The need to establish a base for advanced technology, promote and guide scientific research to meet national development requirements is strongly stressed in a recent study published by the Planning Ministry.

The study pointed that the regular contact and continuous co-operation with all science-oriented establishments and specialised institutes in the advanced countries is another prerequisite for improving the level of Kuwaiti manpower skills.

It added that administrative develop-

ment formed an essential part of the national development strategy, which relied heavily on highly-qualified technical, financial, administrative and professional personnel. Optimum and rational use of manpower cadre could be guaranteed to increase productivity, the study added.

The study also said that the need to develop creativity in scientific, technical and cultural spheres was no less important. Additionally, efforts should be exerted to upgrade the performance of public services, rationalise spending, develop economic resources, diversify the production base and promote the country's financial ability to better fund its various economic projects.

The study also underlined the profitability of increasing the involvement of public sector and exploitation of foreign relations to better serve the country's investments abroad.

Kuwait, India sign accord

KUWAIT and India yesterday signed an agreement dealing with co-operation in the cultural, scientific, educational, information and sport fields for the period 1990-1992, it was officially announced.

Secretary-General of the National Council for Culture, Arts and Letters, Dr Farouk Al-Omar and Indian Ambassador to Kuwait Arun K. Budhiraja signed the agreement on behalf of their respective countries.

In a statement to Kuna, Dr Al-Omar said the agreement would increase opportunities of co-operation between the two countries in these fields, noting that the three-year agreement deals with the exchange of selective cultural works as well as granting scholarships by both governments in addition to the exchange of radio and television programmes and folklore shows. He added the agreement also stipulates the exchange of experts and joint scientific researches as well as holding a joint sports competition.

For his part, the Indian diplomat expressed pleasure over the signing of the agreement, noting that it will contribute to the existing co-operation between India and Kuwait.

He also stressed the importance of the information side of the agreement, noting this will greatly contribute to bringing peoples of both countries closer to each other.

Benazir note to King Fahd

RIYADH, Jan 15 (Kuna): King Fahd Bin Abdul Aziz of Saudi Arabia yesterday received a message from Mrs Benazir Bhutto, the Pakistani Prime Minister, the Saudi Press Agency reported.

The message was delivered by Benazir's special envoy Nasir Ahmad Sheikh who was received by the Saudi monarch at Al-Yamama palace.

The royal audience was attended by Prince Saud Al Faisal, the Foreign Minister and the Pakistani Ambassador to the kingdom, Mohammed Waliullah Khan.

KSC to host meeting

KUWAIT hosts next month a meeting for the executive committee of the International Movement of Scientific and Technological Activities which will bring together representatives from international scientific organisations.

The week-long gathering which opens on Feb 26 is the first of its type in the Middle East and will be held under the aegis of His Highness Crown Prince and Prime Minister Sheikh Saad Al-Abdullah.

The Kuwait Science Club which is hosting the meeting will employ the event to highlight scientific advancement in Kuwait and the Arab Gulf region, according to the club's deputy chairman Adnan Yousif Al-Mir, himself a member of the international movement's executive committee.

The meeting will review the scientific events to be organised this year in the Soviet Union, Czechoslovakia and Franco-phonie countries. Al-Mir told Kuna in a statement.

New US envoy to Saudi Arabia

RIYADH, Jan 15 (AP): The new US ambassador to Saudi Arabia, Charles W. Freeman Jr, yesterday presented his credentials to King Fahd. It was officially announced.

Washington has been without an ambassador to the kingdom, a close ally of the United States, since Walter L. Cutler left in March 1989.

Cutler had accepted the Riyadh posting six months earlier, his second in the kingdom, on the understanding that it was only for a brief period to fill in after the sudden departure of Hume Horan.

Horan had left at the Saudis' request after he complained about the kingdom's purchase of Chinese ballistic missiles which the Riyadh government regarded as an internal affair.

Freeman, named a few months after President George Bush took office, is skilled in Chinese affairs.

He is a career diplomat who served as deputy chief of mission in China and Thailand between 1981 and 1986.

Freeman was chief American interpreter for then President Richard Nixon during a 1972 trip to Beijing to normalize relations between the United States and China.

Since 1986, Freeman had been deputy assistant secretary of state for African affairs.

Rifai said that the authorities will focus on a number of new concerns during the 1990s such as preserving the environment, and the housing problem. Further, the municipality will work to reduce the pollution in the air, land and sea.

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Contracts worth KD 12 million have been signed with various cleaning companies.

These are private specialised companies who will be responsible for keeping the country clean, Rifai said.

The municipality selected between 7 and 12 companies from a total of 17 companies which had submitted bids to undertake the various cleanliness projects in the country.

The official said that the municipality plans to use the old areas to be model areas for citizens. The proposal will save the public money because old areas have all public services like schools, mosques, health centres and police stations.

The official said that he had submitted a proposal to adopt a new building system which allows citizens to build two villas on an area of 750 square metres for the same family and added that the proposal is being carried out.

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KUWAIT ... GULF

Premier Cairo trip far-reaching

Buajian sees change of heart

A RANKING Kuwaiti diplomat has affirmed that the recently-concluded visit by HH the Crown Prince and Premier to Cairo was fruitful on all levels, be that on the Arab or international front.

In an interview with a local daily published yesterday, Abdellah Hamid Al Buajian, director of the Arab World Department at the Foreign Ministry said that the Kuwaiti and Egyptian sides expressed identical views towards many issues of mutual interest.

On his outlook to 1990, Al Buajian said that this year will observe a change of heart on the part of the Europeans towards key Arab issues from the past when Europeans were taking Arabs for granted.

He attributed this change to Arab solidarity which manifested best during the latest Arab summit, held last May in Casablanca, which Al Buajian described as the most important ever.

The ranking diplomat also lauded the resolutions and the session of the Palestine National

Council in Algiers and the Palestinian uprising inside the occupied territories, which erupted nearly 25 months ago.

Internationally, Al Buajian urged Arabs to benefit from the ongoing changes in Eastern Europe and also prepare themselves starting now for the awaited unified Western Europe in 1992.

He said that the changes in East European countries were the direct result of social and economic difficulties suffered by the peoples of these states, citing the restrictions governing the freedom of travel in this part of the world as an example.

He predicted that Western Europe might dispense with a large numbers of Arab workers, if its markets are flooded with East European labourers, calling for the preparation of a study to remedy this possible issue.

Al Buajian, a known authority on Lebanese affairs, affirmed that only the Lebanese people themselves can resolve their problems, urging them to comply with Taif accord, lay down their guns and open a dialogue.

Joint action against Israeli plan

DOHA, Jan 15. (Kuna): Dr Alawi Darwish Kayyal, the Saudi minister of posts, telegraphs and telephones has said the kingdom of Saudi Arabia, under the leadership of King Fahd Bin Abdulaziz, is keen to see a unified Arab action to face the dangers posed by the Israeli satellite.

Dr. Kayyal told the Qatari News Agency, QNA, last night that the matter is under consideration by the Arab space communication corporation, Arabsat, which will undertake the proper measures.

He said the eight-member committee, assigned by Arabsat's general assembly, will meet in Muscat tomorrow to

review matters pertaining to the third generation of Arab satellites as a vital project.

The Saudi PTT minister said the third Arabsat should be launched within two years before the expiry date of the current two satellites now in orbit.

Dr. Kayyal said it was preferred now that Arabsat corporation should remain as it is despite the presence of an idea to make the corporation a company in which private sector takes share.

Dr. Kayyal welcomed the return of Egypt to the membership of Arabsat and expressed hope that the big Egyptian technical and administrative potentialities could contribute to the success of the co-operation.

Arabsat's general assembly, will meet in Muscat tomorrow to



Media praised for uprising coverage

Jaber lauds unity bids

AMMAN, Jan 15. (Kuna):

Kuwait's Information Minister Sheikh Jaber Mubarak Al Hamad Al Sabah has affirmed that the Arab media has so far given the extensive coverage the two-year-old Palestinian uprising deserves, thorough winning over more international support for the Intifada and unmasking the brutal practices of the Israeli authorities against Palestinians.

In an interview with Jordanian daily Al Dustoor, published today, Sheikh Jaber stressed that Arabs must attach great importance to future planning to catch up with the latest international developments, so they do not find themselves in "a real fix."

On the current drives towards rebuilding Arab solidarity, the Kuwaiti minister said that all Arab countries must put this goal at the top of their list of political priorities.

In the same respect, Sheikh Jaber expressed his country's happiness and support at the latest Syrian-Egyptian contacts, and said that Kuwait is all for such similar drives.

On the outcome of the recently-concluded GCC summit towards resolving the Iraq-Iran conflict, he said that all Gulf leaders with no exception exerted many efforts to bring the conflict to an end, but affirmed however that "the conflict will not be resolved without the mutual agreement of the two parties concerned and God's willing they're heading towards a solution."

Sheikh Jaber also expressed satisfaction at the present status of the Gulf media, saying that Gulf states have joined efforts to confront all hostile media campaigns aimed at smearing the reputation of Arab Gulf states.

He said the preparations taken by the Kuwaiti media to confront European satellite transmissions, he said that he had raised this issue at the GCC information ministers meeting in Bahrain recently and noted that a method was originated to control and censor any cable transmission that includes moral-corrupting material, or false propaganda.

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The decision responds to a call by UN Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar on UN member countries to form national committees for the disabled.

The committee was formed under chairmanship of Social Affairs Undersecretary Dr Latifa Al Rejeb and membership of representatives of all government and private sectors concerned with the handicapped affairs to lay down a clear policy.

Authoritative sources at the ministry said that the committee held its first meeting by discussing the UN secretary-general's report on the decade for the handicapped.

The conference came to the conclusion that Kuwait was among the advanced countries in caring for the disabled and reviewed rehabilitation and employment of the handicapped.

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Public libraries in Bahrain are said to be popular among children and increasing number of students visit the libraries during their summer vacation. The Ministry of Education has recently ordered over 2000 books in view of the high demand among students for novels and short-stories apart from general titles.

According to the Central Statistical Organisation (CSO) the total number of books available at the public libraries was about 215,000 in 1988, an increase of about 7,000 books from the preceding year's figure of 208,054, while the journals and periodicals also moved up from 655 to 700.

Sheikh Sabah to chair top-level meeting

Long-term planning

DEPUTY Premier and Foreign Minister Sheikh Sabah Al Ahmed will next Saturday preside over the meeting of the ministerial committee on the upcoming development plan.

Planning undersecretary and the plan's co-ordinator general Abdellah Hadi Mohamed Al Awadi yesterday told reporters that the meeting would review development plans under construction or new ones that would be implemented during the forthcoming plan for (90/1991-94/1995).

He said a committee set up under instructions by Sheikh Sabah had already reviewed the proposed projects with all government quarters, where they specified projects to be implemented according to their priorities.

Awadi said proposals for the long-term plan covering the period from 1990 to the year 2015 would also be discussed at Saturday's meeting. He said the plan was worked out by the Ministry of Planning in collaboration with Kuwait Institute for Scientific Research (Kisr) in line with the country's long-term development strategy.

He said the ministry had finalised the fourth annual report on the current development plan.

The Ministry of Planning (MOP) has finalised a draft of a long-term development project extending from 1990 through 2015, intended to attain high productivity standards, Seyassah learnt yesterday.

The proposed project would be considered in a few days by the Council of Ministers and special discussions would later be held to outline the general framework of the medium-term development plan.

In its effort to attain high productivity standards through a set of available options, Kuwait seeks to establish a gradual balance of its population structure. Following the implementation of the high productivity standards, the average percentage of Kuwaiti population is expected to reach 33.6 per cent the total inhabitants during the years 96-2000, compared to existing 27.5 per cent.

The sources pointed out that the long-term plan takes into consideration all the developments on the international scene, specifically in major spheres, such as the crude oil, petrochemical products, tradeable and untradeable commodities and public service sectors.

In another development, Seyassah has interviewed Dr Al Moataz Khorsheed, an economic researcher at Kisr and head of the Kisr-MOP joint team entrusted with preparing the medium-term development plan. Khorsheed said that a number of experiments were performed using general balancing models taken from the social and arithmetical matrix developed jointly by Kisr and the MOP.

He added that advanced analytical tools were primarily used in the process to develop patterns and proposed development options available to Kuwait.

Consideration was given to the particular characteristics of the Kuwaiti economy and related structural problems in addition to the results of the country's economic curve study, the official said.

The results arrived at by the team involved three major axis which were profusely discussed at the Planning Ministry's offices late last year, he added.

UK schools conference

THE ninth annual meeting of the British schools conference in the Middle East will begin here on Jan 29 to Feb 2.

The conference's activities will be held at the Gulf English School in Salwa neighbourhood where the main speaker will be Peter Watkins, the deputy chief executive of the national curriculum council.

Other speakers at the conference, sponsored by the British Council, include Iris Idle of Sheffield primary technology centre who will be managing workshops on craft design and technology.

Professor John Welton head of the school of education in Oxford who will be conducting workshops on educational management.



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Cost of Doc.
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2. T9-088 Office supplies 4
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6. T9-092 Serrated galvanized steel grating 4
7. T9-093 Oil loading hose hanger chain system 4

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Amir pats outstanding sportsmen

HIS HIGHNESS the Amir Sheikh Jaber Al Ahmad Al Jaber Al Sabah yesterday received outstanding national sports teams to congratulate them for achieving top positions in recent Arab and Muslim competitions.

The meeting was attended by the Minister of Social Affairs and Labour Sheikh Nasser Mohammed Al Ahmad and the President of the Kuwaiti Olympic Committee, Sheikh Fahad Al Ahmad.

The outstanding teams included the national teams of volleyball, basketball, handball and track and field. The four teams have won the top awards in the Friendship and Peace championship organised in Kuwait last November.

Also attending the reception were national teams of swimming, tennis, judo, taekwondo, and fencing.

In a brief statement, the Amir lauded efforts of managers of the teams in realising excellent performances and commended seriousness of players in perfecting their sports abilities.

He pointed out that their performances won Kuwait high reputation and printed the name of Kuwait in the record of competing countries in these sports.

The Minister of Social Affairs and Labour, Sheikh Nasser thanked the players for their outstanding performance, saying that they have earned the respect and admiration of officials in the country and abroad.

Sheikh Fahad Al Ahmad thanked the Amir for inviting the players to visit him and said sports teams in Kuwait always find utmost attention from government offices.

He noted that sports movement has begun to develop and its strength in past years. They retained strength, he said, was due to quite dialogue pursued by sports officials and practitioners.

Rain havoc in Bahrain

MANAMA, Jan 15. (AP): Little accustomed to rain, the central Gulf island state of Bahrain had more than 100 car accidents in a single day because of wet downpours yesterday.

Police figures of traffic accidents yesterday were minor. But the Al Ayam daily estimated that between noon Sunday and 9 pm there were 120 accidents, four of them serious.

The meteorological office said Sunday was the wettest January day for 21 years with 29 mm (nearly 1 inch) of rain.

Bahrain, which lies off the arid Arabian peninsula, has an average of 11 days of rain a year and its drainage system is not built to cope with heavy rain that swamps the streets.

An old house also collapsed in the downpour.

On the peninsula, leaders often call on their nations to pray for rain, emulating early Islamic practices.

EDITORIALS

ARAB TIMES
Thought for today

NOT life, but a good life, is to be chiefly valued — Socrates, Greek philosopher (about 470 BC - 399 BC).

Changed society awaits Mandela

SOWETO, South Africa, (Reuters): If Nelson Mandela is freed after more than a quarter of a century in South African jails he will return to 8115 Vilakasi Street in Soweto's Orlando West District, his home at the time of his arrest.

The modest red-brick bungalow where Mandela lived with his wife Winnie before his imprisonment in 1962 is not much different from the rows of other tiny homes in the neighbourhood, scornfully referred to by Sowetans as "matchboxes."

Mandela, 71, will remember the house much as it is today.

The tree in the front garden has grown tall in the years he has been in jail and there is now a wall around the house in Johannesburg's huge black township.

The black, green and yellow flag of Mandela's outlawed African National Congress (ANC) flies from the rooftop in preparation for his homecoming. The house is guarded by young activists.

"We don't know when he will be coming home, but we know it will be soon," said one, who calls himself "General."

Mandela signalled for the first time last week that he expects to be freed soon, asking his wife Winnie to begin preliminary arrangements for his release.

"I don't think we are talking about months any longer," she told reporters after visiting Mandela at the Victor Verster prison 60 km (35 miles) northeast of Cape Town.

In Soweto, for the occasional haul of foreign tourists that weaves through the dusty streets to the home of the world's most famous political prisoner, there is an unfriendly message in graffiti opposite the Mandela house.

"Soweto is no zoo for white racist tourists," it reads.

Mandela has three houses in Soweto. One, a still-unfinished mansion built by Mrs Mandela with funds from foreign governments and philanthropic groups, has been criticised by Soweto residents as ostentatious. The other is an upmarket bungalow in the prosperous Diepkloof district, where she lives with her daughter Zindzi, born shortly after Mandela's arrest.

But Mandela's family and friends say he still considers the house on Vilakasi street his home.

Inside the house, an elderly grey-haired man living there temporarily waits by the telephone in a cramped dining room for news of his friend's homecoming.

"I am eagerly waiting for Mandela," said Wilton Mkwai, 67, an ANC veteran who was jailed for subversion in 1964, the same year Mandela was sentenced to life imprisonment for plotting to overthrow white rule.

"What tips do you have on the date he will be freed?" Mkwai asks a reporter. "Personally I hope it will be this month."

Mkwai knows what it is to spend a quarter of a century waiting for freedom.

He spent 26 years in jail with Mandela on Robben Island and later in Cape Town's Pollsmoor prison before the government released him last October also with seven other prominent political prisoners.

In 1987 Mkwai married Irene, his 63-year-old fiancée of 20 years, in Pollsmoor. She died in December 1988, just 10 months before he was freed. He was not allowed to attend the funeral.

Mkwai is "indefinable" and he says "Mandela feels the same way."

"The government that jailed us is not the same one in power now," he reflects. "The world has changed."

"Let us not hold grudges for what happened in the past."

"When we went to jail, Soweto was a township. Now it is a city," Mkwai said in an interview with Reuters. "This place is big now that sometimes I feel like a lost bird in the sky."

The new government of President De Klerk has vowed to accelerate political change in South Africa and said it recognises that Mandela's release is a prerequisite to any meaningful negotiations with the voteless black majority.

The new climate and the new president have spawned a weekly flurry of rumours that Mandela's release is imminent.

But the political climate was very different when Mandela and Mkwai were jailed under the then Prime Minister Hendrik Verwoerd, the architect of grand apartheid.

At the time, for example, the few whites who visited Soweto, South Africa's biggest black township, near Johannesburg, had to obtain permits.

"When they let me out there was the sea of faces of all colours here to greet me," said Mkwai. "I said to myself: 'Is it so easy for whites to get permits to come to the township now? I didn't realise you don't need them (permits) anymore. That is just one of the things that has changed."

Among other changes, the government lifted a ban on black trades unions in 1979 and repealed a law forbidding racially mixed marriages and sex across the colour line in 1985. In the following year it abolished the hated pass laws, one of the mainstays of apartheid, which restricted blacks' freedom of movement.

Despite the changes, however, several bedrock apartheid laws remain, including the Group Areas Act, which segregates residential areas by race, and the Population Registration Act, which classifies people by race at birth.

The rumours about Mandela's release continue to swirl. The latest is that it will be announced when De Klerk officially opens parliament in Cape Town on Feb. 2.

"I hope it is before that. I hope De Klerk will just report to parliament that Mandela has already been released. Let me know if you hear anything about the date," said Mkwai.

TODAY IN HISTORY

1581 — Britain's Parliament takes stern measures against Roman Catholics.
1646 — Courtrai, Belgium, falls to French Army.
1666 — France, allied with Holland, declares war on England.
1761 — British take Pondicherry after siege, marking end of French dominion in India.
1778 — France recognises US independence.
1816 — Portugal's South American colony, Brazil, becomes a kingdom.
1864 — Austria and Prussia send ultimatum to Denmark for repeal of constitution calling for incorporation of Schleswig.
1906 — Algeciras Conference on Morocco opens.
1925 — Leon Trotsky is dismissed from chairmanship of Russia's Revolutionary Council.
1964 — Thirteen Arab nations, meeting in Cairo, agree to set up military command to strengthen Arab position on problems related to Israel.
1966 — Major General Aguiyi Ironsi takes over power in Nigeria after announcing that an attempted coup had been smashed.
1969 — Soviet cosmonauts achieve first linkup of two manned spaceships while in orbit around earth.
1971 — Swiss ambassador to Brazil, Giovanni Enrico Bucher, is freed in Rio de Janeiro after being held by kidnappers for 40 days.
1973 — United States and South Vietnam declare ceasefire in Vietnam war in hopes of full peace pact.
1979 — Shah Mohammed Reza Pahlevi flees Iran after new civilian government is approved in parliament.
1987 — Hu Yaobang resigns as head of China's Communist Party, accepting blame for policy mistakes stemming from a student tumult.
1988 — Iranian gunboats raid Japanese-operated tanker at entrance to Gulf, leaving it disabled.
1989 — Officials from 35 nations work in Vienna to conclude an agreement that would reduce the threat of war in Europe and improve human rights in communist countries.



Members of kibbutz Ramot Menashe have requested a meeting with Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir to explain their intentions. (Reuter wirephoto)

Peace movement struggles

Biggest Israeli-PLO meeting planned

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM, (AP): On a small kibbutz just south of the port city of Haifa, a new pioneering spirit is taking hold.

For the last month, the members of Ramot Menashe have been busy planning what might prove to be the biggest meeting ever between Israelis and the PLO.

If the Egyptian government agrees to act as host for the meeting, a convoy of buses — dubbed by the kibbutz "the peace caravan" — will begin to make its way around the Israeli-occupied Gaza Strip and through the Sinai Peninsula toward Cairo near the end of January.

"After the fall of the Berlin Wall, we can no longer accept the continued existence of paper walls preventing dialogue between peoples," the kibbutz declared last month when members decided to go ahead with the trip to Egypt.

The grassroots initiative already has caused a small political storm in right-wing circles but to date, more than 1,000 applications to join the "peace caravan" have poured into the kibbutz from university lecturers, rabbis, peace activists and parliamentarians.

Sarah Ozacky, 43, an organizer of the two-day trip, said her kibbutz wanted to do more than stage a demonstration to prove "that a dialogue is possible" between Israelis and the Palestine Liberation Organization.

"We felt it was time to try something different. The idea of the trip is to break the ice," she said.

Kibbutz Ramot Menashe's impatience underlines a growing feeling in left-wing political circles that time is running out; that more dramatic forms of protest are needed to put pressure on the government.

"The peace movement has to become a movement of revolt. It's not enough to protest and to demonstrate," said Prof. Yeshaghu Leibovitz, who at 87 is considered a spiritual leader for those calling for more radical forms of protest.

The Palestinian struggle for independence, in particular the 2-year-old uprising, has hardened the government's resolve against talking with the PLO.

Members of Kibbutz Ramot Menashe have requested a meeting with Israeli Prime Minister

Yitzhak Shamir to explain their intentions. They have assured the government they do not plan to break the law or negotiate with the PLO.

Organizers have described the proposed Israeli-Palestinian meeting as an informal "happening" in a Cairo park. PLO chairman Yasser Arafat has said he would attend.

But the organizers, heeding legal advice in every step of the planning, intend to remain within Israeli law by using intermediaries to talk with PLO officials.

The proposed meeting comes at a time when the peace process is at an impasse. The United States, Israel and Egypt are trying to bring about an Israeli-Palestinian dialogue but differ on several key issues, including the role of the PLO.

While the three governments work to find a consensus, activists and analysts say the uprising and the Israeli military's brutal response at times has radicalized the peace movement.

The movement has never been more united in calling upon Israel to "talk" with the PLO, but differences remain on what strategies are politically effective.

Peace Now, Israel's oldest and largest mainstream peace group, is an example of the emerging consensus. During the past year, they have begun to call on the government to negotiate directly with the PLO. But they have refused to support the Kibbutz Ramot Menashe's "peace caravan."

"We are always thinking in terms of political effects," said Amiram Goldblum, a Peace Now spokesman. "The meeting in Egypt, which will be a direct meeting with prominent persons in the PLO, will be used by the right-wing in Israel to put more pressure on the government."

"We understand their (the Kibbutz members') position but we don't sympathize with it," he said. "We are not sure it will help us in spreading the idea of negotiations."

Peace Now members meet with Palestinians in the occupied territories, and, using intermediaries so as not to break Israeli law, have participated in discussions with PLO representatives in Europe and North America.

But the group's mainstays have been demonstra-

tions in Israel calling for Israeli-Palestinian talks.

In their boldest demonstration since the start of the Palestinian uprising, Peace Now sponsored a December peace protest with 20,000 Israelis, Palestinians and foreigners joining hands around the walled old city and calling for negotiations with the PLO and a two-state solution.

Goldblum admits that demonstrations are not the only vehicle the peace movement has to institute change within Israel, but he remains skeptical of the "peace caravan."

"I understand the pressures but those people must understand it's not a question of how far you go but how effective you are."

Leibovitz, a professor at Hebrew University in occupied Jerusalem who has been warning Israelis since 1967 of the damage the occupation is inflicting on the country's moral fabric, is critical of Peace Now's cautious approach.

"I call for breaking the law and they as yet do not," Leibovitz said. "They are slowly moving in the right direction but I am not understanding my position. The law of the state isn't the highest measure for human conduct."

Yesh Gvul, Hebrew for "there's a limit," is one peace group in Israel that supports those who refuse to serve in the occupied territories.

Formed in 1982, it asked Israelis not to serve in the Lebanon war. Today it supports the families of reservists who refuse to serve in the occupied territories for moral and political reasons.

Despite the differences, Leibovitz believes the peace groups have accomplished something.

"The peace movement has succeeded in breaking the so-called national consensus," he said. "There has been a deep change in consciousness in many Israelis."

According to a poll late last year, 62 per cent of Israelis questioned said they approved of the principle of talking with the PLO.

Despite any changes in Israeli public opinion, the Israeli government remains steadfast in its refusal to talk with the PLO. To hammer home the point, Shamir recently ordered the dismissal of maverick politician Ezer Weizman from the policy-making inner cabinet after accusing him of maintaining contacts with the PLO.

In search of peace in Cambodia

BANGKOK, Thailand, (AP): Nations that recall the horror of Khmer Rouge rule in the 1970s are searching for a negotiated settlement of the Cambodian war with renewed urgency, amid reports of Khmer Rouge jungle advances.

The moment was quickened Friday after Soviet Deputy Foreign Minister Igor Rogachev's announcement in Beijing that the Soviet Union and China have agreed the United Nations should play a "very major role" in a settlement.

The announcement was significant because the Soviets arm the Vietnamese-installed government and China arms the opposition guerrillas, including the Khmer Rouge.

The announcement added to increasing hopes centred around Australia's proposal for a UN interim authority in Cambodia, which diplomats call the most promising peace plan in years.

The Soviet Union, China and the three other permanent members of the UN Security Council, Britain, France and the United States, will discuss the Australian and other Cambodian peace initiatives at a major meeting in Paris today and tomorrow.

International fear of the Khmer Rouge is rooted in their 1975-78 rule of Cambodia, during which hundreds of thousands of the nation's 8 million people were murdered, starved to death, or died in civil unrest.

The Khmer Rouge, who toppled the US-backed Lon Nol government in April 1975, were only driven out by a full-scale Vietnamese invasion in December 1978. But even though they were reviled for a policy of emptying the cities and banishing residents — including bed-ridden hospital patients — to slave labour camps in the countryside, they retained a following. Now, with Thai and Chinese aid, they have rebounded into the largest opposition group fighting the Phnom Penh government.

Dread of a Khmer Rouge return intensified in September, when Vietnam withdrew troops aiding the Hanoi-installed government. That fear was heightened last week when Khmer Rouge guerrillas claimed to have set off explosives in the two largest cities — including the capital of Phnom Penh.

Sources in Phnom Penh confirmed a bombing attack did occur on Jan 5 and 6 — the eve of the national day on the day anniversary of the end of Khmer

Rouge rule.

Khmer Rouge rebels claimed the attacks were so successful that the leadership fled to Vietnam. But while the claims seemed exaggerated, Premier Hun Sen did shift a meeting with an Australian envoy from the capital to an eastern province bordering Vietnam.

The Cambodian government acknowledged an attack near Battambang provincial capital in the northwest. However, the Khmer Rouge guerrillas claimed they set parts of the city ablaze on Jan 5 and 6 and battered the military command headquarters and an airfield. They said the attacks were continuing.

The effect of the attacks has been "more psychological than strategic," according to Western diplomatic sources, who predicted more such strikes in coming weeks. The strikes will bolster Khmer Rouge bargaining power at the peace talks, according to the sources who declined to be identified.

"If we let the situation persist and the Khmer Rouge gain more ground, they might harden their stance at the negotiating table," said Ek Sereyvath, a spokesman for Prince Norodom Sihanouk.

But the Cambodian government has been negotiating with the ruling communists on ethnic issues, and will soon sit down for talks on power-sharing, elections schedules, introduction of effective multi-party democracy and other key issues.

ARAB TIMES, TUESDAY, JANUARY 16, 1990

Eastern Europe tastes freedom

VIENNA, Austria, (AP): The tide of popular will that has forced the scheduling of free elections in most East bloc nations appears to be sweeping the Soviet Union along.

Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev, under pressure to expand political reform, suggested Saturday that he would not resist moves to allow multiple parties in the Soviet Union.

In Poland, Hungary, Romania, Czechoslovakia and East Germany, the communists already have given up their leading role in society, under pressure from pro-democracy movements that triggered revolutionary upheavals late last year.

In Bulgaria, the Communist Party is to waive its leading role in the near future. As in the other countries, eliminating the party's official dominance requires a change in the constitution.

Even non-aligned Yugoslavia's Communist Party has promised free elections, but it is still not clear how soon they will take place.

Hungary will be the first East bloc country to stage multi-party elections this year. Its Parliament, shedding the role of a rubber stamp body, has provided the legal basis for the registration and operation of political parties and made other provisions for multi-party democracy.

The Hungarian elections in March will see a variety of conservative, social democratic and peasant parties vying for votes.

The Hungarian Communist Party, which last year converted itself into the Hungarian Socialist Party, could end up in a ruling coalition or in opposition.

In Romania, where the revolution is only three weeks old, it is hard to say what parties will take part in the first elections after the ouster of dictator Nicolae Ceausescu. The election date is also unclear.

The ruling National Salvation Front Council said it would arrange for elections in May, but the National Peasant Party and other emerging political groups insist they need more time to prepare for the vote.

Therefore, the interim leadership is likely to postpone the election date at least until summer.

Under pressure from an angry crowd in Bucharest, interim Romanian President Ion Iliescu on Friday declared the Communist Party outlawed. On Saturday, however, he reversed himself, saying it had been a rash decision and the issue would be resolved in a referendum on Jan 28.

In Czechoslovakia, half a dozen parties, including the Communist Party, may take part in the country's first free elections since 1948. Ballotting is scheduled for June.

Even though they don't face a ban like in Romania, the Czechoslovak communists stand little chance to regain prominence and influence.

Dollar closes higher

LONDON, Jan 15. (UPI): The dollar closed higher against the major European currencies today. Gold was down.

The dollar closed higher in Frankfurt at 1.6895 German marks against Friday's close at 1.6760 and also was higher in Zurich at 1.5070 Swiss francs against 1.4960, in Paris at 5.7285 French francs against 5.7230, in Brussels at 35.42 Belgian francs against 35.06, and in Milan at 1.255.50 lire against 1.254.50.

In London, the pound closed lower at \$1.6640 against \$1.67 at Friday's close.

In Zurich, gold closed lower at \$35.30 per ounce against \$35.35 per ounce and also was lower in London at \$526 per ounce against \$533 per ounce.

London shares were holding above the day's lows this afternoon as Wall Street defied fears of a sharp sell-off and eased relatively modestly in active two-way trade.

The New York market fell 19 points at one stage before rallying slightly, but this was far less than many dealers had expected and raised hopes there would be no repeat of Friday's 2.6 per cent, or 71 point, plunge.

Wall Street stocks down

NEW YORK, Jan 15. (Reuters): Wall Street stocks resumed their decline today, but a big slide that had been feared after Friday's worrying drop did not occur.

The Dow Jones industrial average, a key index comprising 30 blue-chip stocks, was down 10.67 points at 2,678.54 at noon after falling 71.46 points in the previous session.

Friday's drop was the steepest since October 14, when the Dow plunged 190.38 points, its second largest ever drop.

Shares in the broader market were weighed down by news that two more oil companies owned by Canada's Campeau Corp., Federated Department Stores Inc. and Allied Stores Corp., filed for bankruptcy.

Declining issues outnumbered advances three to one on the New York Stock Exchange. Trading was moderate, with 70 million shares changing hands by midday.

Accord on air links

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM, Jan 15. (Reuters): Israel said today it had signed an agreement to establish air links with Czechoslovakia, one of the first steps towards resuming full relations.

The Transport Ministry said the agreement in principle for flights between Tel Aviv and Prague was signed in the Czechoslovak capital last week.

Israel's national carrier El Al and CSA Czechoslovak Airlines are to begin scheduled flights this summer.

A Czechoslovak Foreign Ministry official who visited Israel last week said the two countries would soon restore full ties after 22 years. Prague followed the Soviet Union in severing ties with the Jewish State over the 1967 Middle East war.

Romania was the only East European country that did not break off ties.

Farmers on strike

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM, Jan 15. (Reuters): Farmers along Israel's northern border staged a strike today to protest economic hardships, saying Katynusha rockets would not drive them from their homes but poverty might.

Residents of 52 farming settlements stayed away from work and kept children home from school. Some burned tyres and blocked roads, drawing large numbers of police to disperse them. Israel radio said.

"No boy, no family left the Galilee settlements because of Katynusha attacks or security but dozens left and I estimate dozens more will leave. If we don't find an economic base," said Nissim Zvill, a representative of the agricultural co-operatives.

The farmers are demanding higher government subsidies for eggs and chickens. But Agriculture Minister Avraham Katz-Oz said in a television interview yesterday the farmers should diversify their economic base and rely less on agriculture.

"I definitely agree with the agricultural minister's call in principle that we have to vary the sources of employment in the area," Zvill said.

BUSINESS & FINANCE

Merger move will help boost competitive edge

Economy back on the right track

By Lima Al Khalafawi
Arab Times staff

THE government is seriously determined to carry out the recommendations of the economic-revival programme to put the local economy back on the right track, Kuwait's Central Bank governor, Sheikh Salem Abdul Azz Al Sabah announced yesterday. Addressing a lecture at the Economics and Political Science Faculty of Kuwait University, he expressed optimism about the bright future awaiting the local economy. "I believe that all local and external conditions make the Kuwaiti economy well set for emergence more than any time before," Sheikh Salem emphasised.

He said that although the performance of the national economy achieved some improvement in the past three years, it was not up to the rates and quality aimed at and wanted by the country's economic administration. The latest measures thus came to put the national economy back on the right track and achieve the required development.

Speaking about the reactions to the economic-revival programme, Sheikh Salem said that all the reactions have convinced us that the various sectors and economic activists in the country are ready to start working, motivated in this by the atmosphere of confidence and trust in the resources of our economy and its true ability that can push our country forward towards progress and prosperity.

Sheikh Salem stressed that the economic-revival programme are in line with the country's economic directives, the long-term development strategy and with the study to amend the course of the Kuwaiti economy.

He said that although many of the recommendations aim at improving the performance of some economic sectors in the short run, they at the same time reflect a government's intention to introduce changes in the structural characteristics of the Kuwaiti economy.

About the recommendations on the difficult bank debts, the governor said that the recommendations to settle debts up to KD 250,000 came after it was found that the number of dealers having such debts were 68 comprising 54 per cent of the total indebted dealers.

It was also found that their



Sheikh Salem

total debts were only KD 55 million or just 2.5 per cent of the KD 2.2 billion bad debts. Furthermore, KD 15 million of the 55 million were mortgaged by the banks and this leaves only KD 40

million for the banks to deal with.

He said that these debts involve all the local commercial banks, stressing that it will be easy for them to write off these debts. The recommendations also included giving the commercial banks a financial support to be able to carry out the settlement scheme.

Sheikh Salem said that the proposed merger of the local commercial banks will be one of the factors that will strengthen the efficiency of using the support money. The merger, he stressed, would boost the financial position of these banks and increase its competition in foreign markets.

He said that the proposed financial backing for the banks aims as a first step, to allow the state

to lift the guarantee on the shareholders' rights in preparation to lift the guarantee on the depositors' rights after setting up an establishment to guarantee bank deposits. After that, Sheikh Salem said that in the light of an entirely different policy, the commercial banks will have to bear the consequences of their decisions, hinting that the banks after that stage will have to work on their own. He said that the financial backing paid to the banks will be restored by the government after enabling the banks to build up the necessary allocations.

The official said that the support offered to banks will be fully refunded after completion of building its necessary allocations. He added that it is worth mentioning about the recom-

mendation concerning the financial support to deficit banks as necessary to set regulations and terms to these banks in order to upgrade its management and develop its activities to reach the aim of increasing the operations and to hasten the refund of the financial support.

Sheikh Salem said that the joint economic report included other recommendations in the field of developing the difficult debts clearance programme. The recommendations are based on three points. The first is to protect the banking sector regarded as one of the vital sectors of the national economy. Secondly to hasten solving the financial problems of the banks and thirdly a final outcome of the joint report in the field of developing the clearance programme.

Heating oil prices soar

Prices may limit Opec output cut

New oil strike

LONDON, Jan 15. (Reuters): Petroleum Intelligence Weekly said today that Opec output cuts under a new accord effective January 1 were starting to materialise but high prices and strong demand could mean that some planned curbs are scrapped.

This would mean reductions fall short of the 1.5 million barrels per day (bpd) that had seemed possible.

PTW, a New York-based industry newsletter, said Nigeria was trimming by 150,000 to 200,000 bpd. A decline of 350,000 bpd in Abu Dhabi seemed to be "maintenance needs" and was also proceeding as planned.

But he said Total was continuing prospecting in the region to assess the size of the discovery.

Total is one of 10 foreign companies involved in exploration and development of Syria's oilfields.

Crude oil production is currently running at around 350,000 barrels a day and is expected to soon reach 400,000 barrels daily when the AJ Tayyan field is fully on stream.

Production of another domestic company, Aramco, last year Syria became a major exporter for the first time, with revenues of \$550 million.

Output for 1990 is expected to rise 10 per cent to 400,000 bpd.

Output for 1991 is expected to rise 10 per cent to 440,000 bpd.

Output for 1992 is expected to rise 10 per cent to 480,000 bpd.

Output for 1993 is expected to rise 10 per cent to 520,000 bpd.

Output for 1994 is expected to rise 10 per cent to 560,000 bpd.

Output for 1995 is expected to rise 10 per cent to 600,000 bpd.

Output for 1996 is expected to rise 10 per cent to 640,000 bpd.

Output for 1997 is expected to rise 10 per cent to 680,000 bpd.

Output for 1998 is expected to rise 10 per cent to 720,000 bpd.

Output for 1999 is expected to rise 10 per cent to 760,000 bpd.

Output for 2000 is expected to rise 10 per cent to 800,000 bpd.

Output for 2001 is expected to rise 10 per cent to 840,000 bpd.

Output for 2002 is expected to rise 10 per cent to 880,000 bpd.

Output for 2003 is expected to rise 10 per cent to 920,000 bpd.

Output for 2004 is expected to rise 10 per cent to 960,000 bpd.

Output for 2005 is expected to rise 10 per cent to 1,000,000 bpd.

Output for 2006 is expected to rise 10 per cent to 1,040,000 bpd.

Output for 2007 is expected to rise 10 per cent to 1,080,000 bpd.

Output for 2008 is expected to rise 10 per cent to 1,120,000 bpd.

Output for 2009 is expected to rise 10 per cent to 1,160,000 bpd.

Output for 2010 is expected to rise 10 per cent to 1,200,000 bpd.

Output for 2011 is expected to rise 10 per cent to 1,240,000 bpd.

Output for 2012 is expected to rise 10 per cent to 1,280,000 bpd.

Output for 2013 is expected to rise 10 per cent to 1,320,000 bpd.

Output for 2014 is expected to rise 10 per cent to 1,360,000 bpd.

Output for 2015 is expected to rise 10 per cent to 1,400,000 bpd.

Output for 2016 is expected to rise 10 per cent to 1,440,000 bpd.

Output for 2017 is expected to rise 10 per cent to 1,480,000 bpd.

Output for 2018 is expected to rise 10 per cent to 1,520,000 bpd.

Output for 2019 is expected to rise 10 per cent to 1,560,000 bpd.

Output for 2020 is expected to rise 10 per cent to 1,600,000 bpd.

Output for 2021 is expected to rise 10 per cent to 1,640,000 bpd.

Output for 2022 is expected to rise 10 per cent to 1,680,000 bpd.

Output for 2023 is expected to rise 10 per cent to 1,720,000 bpd.

Output for 2024 is expected to rise 10 per cent to 1,760,000 bpd.

Output for 2025 is expected to rise 10 per cent to 1,800,000 bpd.

Output for 2026 is expected to rise 10 per cent to 1,840,000 bpd.

Output for 2027 is expected to rise 10 per cent to 1,880,000 bpd.

Output for 2028 is expected to rise 10 per cent to 1,920,000 bpd.

Output for 2029 is expected to rise 10 per cent to 1,960,000 bpd.

Output for 2030 is expected to rise 10 per cent to 2,000,000 bpd.

Output for 2031 is expected to rise 10 per cent to 2,040,000 bpd.

Output for 2032 is expected to rise 10 per cent to 2,080,000 bpd.

Output for 2033 is expected to rise 10 per cent to 2,120,000 bpd.

Output for 2034 is expected to rise 10 per cent to 2,160,000 bpd.

Output for 2035 is expected to rise 10 per cent to 2,200,000 bpd.

Output for 2036 is expected to rise 10 per cent to 2,240,000 bpd.

Output for 2037 is expected to rise 10 per cent to 2,280,000 bpd.

Output for 2038 is expected to rise 10 per cent to 2,320,000 bpd.

Output for 2039 is expected to rise 10 per cent to 2,360,000 bpd.

Output for 2040 is expected to rise 10 per cent to 2,400,000 bpd.

Output for 2041 is expected to rise 10 per cent to 2,440,000 bpd.

Output for 2042 is expected to rise 10 per cent to 2,480,000 bpd.

Output for 2043 is expected to rise 10 per cent to 2,520,000 bpd.

Output for 2044 is expected to rise 10 per cent to 2,560,000 bpd.

Output for 2045 is expected to rise 10 per cent to 2,600,000 bpd.

Output for 2046 is expected to rise 10 per cent to 2,640,000 bpd.

Output for 2047 is expected to rise 10 per cent to 2,680,000 bpd.

Output for 2048 is expected to rise 10 per cent to 2,720,000 bpd.

Output for 2049 is expected to rise 10 per cent to 2,760,000 bpd.

Tunisia,
N. Yemen
may lose in
E. Europe

Investment rush

BAHRAIN, Jan 15. (Reuters): Economic aid to Arab states like Tunisia, North Yemen and Algeria would probably stop as Western and Eastern Bloc countries pour funds into East Europe, a Palestinian economist said today.

Nabil Shaath, adviser to PLO leader Yasser Arafat, said highly trained East European workers would choose to work in West Europe rather than Arab countries, and returning Arab labour from Europe would put additional pressure on the region.

He told 350 participants from Bahrain, Kuwait, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates attending a two-day marketing course they must think of their role in East Europe.

"We must think of the role we can play in East Europe," he said. "I underline the contracting sector because Saudi contractors with Sudanese labour could invade these markets."

In the short term, the political and economic upheavals in East Europe were not in the interests of Arab states, he said.

But this could change if Arab nations formed a unified economic bloc to take advantage of new opportunities generated by the change, Shaath added.

"East Europe is a big prospective market for Gulf states in particular because they are the only Arab countries who can finance with their trade," Shaath, chairman of the Palestine National Council's political committee, said.

"We want all of Europe to become a market for Arab exports and investments and the only way we can do this is by becoming a unified Arab bloc," he said.

Shaath said Arab causes would take a back seat initially as East and West Europe concentrated on unifying their policies.

KD deposit rates firm

KUWAIT, Jan 15. (Reuters): Kuwaiti dinar deposit rates firms today in quiet trade, dealers said.

In the short dates, overnight was bid 1/4 point firmer at eight 7-3/4 per cent. Spot-next rose 1/8 point to 8-1/2 1/4, while one week was steady at 8-1/2 1/4.

In the fixed dates, one and three months edged up 1/16 point to 8-9/16 15/16 and six months climbed 1/8 point to 8-1/2 1/4. One year was quoted at 8-3/8 1/4.

The Central Bank left its dinar exchange rate unchanged at 0.2912/35 to the dollar, where it has stayed since Thursday.

Meanwhile Saudi riyal spot-next deposit rates rose after demand increased late today, dealers said.

Spot-next had been quoted at 8-1/2 per cent earlier in the day, but climbed to 9-1/2 nine after a bond issued by the Saudi Arabian Monetary Agency drained liquidity out of the market and after bidding for funds by banks and corporations.

SAS to fly to Latvia

STOCKHOLM, Jan 15. (Reuters): Scandinavian Airlines System (SAS) plans to begin direct flights to Riga in the Soviet Republic of Latvia in April and is also considering services to East Berlin and Prague, a spokesman said yesterday.

The scheduled flights to Riga will probably fly twice a week and the Soviet airline Aeroflot will shortly announce details of reciprocal flights to Stockholm, the spokesman added.

SAS last November became the first Western carrier to fly to the Baltic Republics when it opened a route between Stockholm and the Estonian capital, Tallinn. The twice-weekly flights are already proving to be commercially successful.

The Latvian division of Aeroflot has asked SAS to advise on upgrading to international standard Riga airport, which at present has only domestic traffic, the SAS spokesman said.

SAS is considering direct flights to Prague and East Berlin, and has increased the frequency of its Copenhagen-Budapest flights to daily, he added.

NEW CHANGES IN RATES	
Indian rupee	0.01730
Si Lankan rupee	0.007380
Pakistani rupee	0.013740
Bangladesh taka	0.008970
US dollar	0.92300
Pound sterling	0.47300
UAE dirham	0.07900
Deutsche mark	1.73630
Japanese yen	0.002014

Analysts see more gloom for Tokyo stock market

Kaifu vows more aid to Poland

WARSAW, Poland, Jan 15. (AP): Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu of Japan today assured President Wojciech Jaruzelski of further economic support for Poland as economic experts discussed terms of future Japanese credit guarantees.

Kaifu also met with Sejm Speaker Mikolaj Kozakiewicz and Senate Speaker Andrzej Stelmachowski on the final day of a two-day visit to Poland, the PAP news agency reported.

The Japanese leader also met with Solidarity Prime Minister Tadeusz Mazowiecki. Polish officials hope the visit will lead to an increased level in economic co-operation between the two countries.

PAP said that Kaifu told Jaruzelski that Japan would increase its support for the changes underway in Poland, par-

ticularly in the field of financial co-operation.

Poland and Japan signed an agreement yesterday in which Tokyo pledged a \$150-million credit to a stabilisation fund to back the zloty as the conversion to a convertible Polish currency is made.

Japan also agreed to provide Poland with \$25 million worth of food aid, and \$1.5 million to help train Polish managers.

Japan is considering a possible \$350-million guarantee for government investments as well as a \$500-million guarantee by the Japanese Export Bank for Japanese investments in Poland during talks on Sunday.

The conditions of the guarantees have yet to be worked out by both sides.

Poland is also hoping for Japanese support during

negotiations by the Paris Club on Poland's \$40-billion foreign debt.

Poland would like a three-year reprieve on interest payments on the debt so that precious hard currency can be used for investment purposes and to stabilise the currency.

Kaifu is scheduled to travel to Budapest later in the day for the final stop on a seven country 10-day tour of Europe.

In an another development, analysts said today a weak yen and low government bond prices are likely to result in another gloomy week for the Tokyo stock market.

The Nikkei stock average ended last week with a 653.36-point drop on Friday, bringing its losses in the first seven trading days of the year to almost 1,400 points, or 3.7 per cent, as con-

tinued in the market sell and political uncertainties grew.

"A recovery in government bond prices is key to a stock market recovery during the coming week, but there is little hope," said Hiroichiro Ishikawa, chief of the securities division at Yamachi Securities Co.

Financial markets in Tokyo were closed today for a national holiday, Coming-of-Age Day.

Ishikawa said the Nikkei index could fall below the 37,000-point level because of the likelihood of further declines in government bonds. On Friday, the index closed at 37,516.77.

Prices of Japanese government bonds, currently the major worry of stock investors, have fallen sharply because of rising interest rates and the low yen, which has remained weak despite repeated intervention by the

Bank of Japan, dealers said.

Since the beginning of the year, the price of 10-year bond futures has fallen 4.61 points to 98.50, their lowest level since the Black-Monday market crash in 1987.

Since Jan 4, when trading began this year, the 225-share Nikkei index has risen on two days and fallen five times — a sharp contrast with the end of last year, when the market's key barometer closed at a record high of 38,915.87.

Friday's loss, the largest one-day plunge in the Nikkei average since it fell 731.91 point on Nov 10, 1987, was followed by drops on both the New York and London markets.

While dealers said Friday's decline resulted from the sharp drop in government bond prices, losses earlier in the week

attributed to rumours of instability in the Soviet Union.

"Unless there is good news from the (Japanese) delegation now in the Soviet Union, market performance this week is likely to be similar to last week," Ishikawa said. "The yen will remain weak, and the plunge in government bond prices will not stop any time soon."

Former Foreign Minister Shintaro Abe and seven other lawmakers from the governing Liberal Democratic Party are currently in Moscow, where Abe met today with Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev.

Amid the growing lack of confidence in the market, rumours and remarks from politicians and business leaders are likely to continue having a strong influence on trading, analysts

said.

José Takahashi, chief economist with Mitsubishi Research Institute, warned that the market's sensitivity to rumours could be dangerous. "It is too optimistic to see the current plunge as a transitional adjustment process," he added.

"There's nothing positive in the securities market because of the current inflationary pressures," he told the newspaper.

Bank of Japan Governor Yasushi Mieno said last week that the stock market plunge was not serious because the Nikkei index had only returned to its month-earlier level.

Takashi said inflationary pressure in Japan has created a "trickle low" phenomenon — a simultaneous decline in securities, yen and government bond prices.

Components to play key role

Ceramics centre opened

British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher has opened the Rolls-Royce Advanced Ceramics Centre at the University of Warwick in the English midlands.

The Advanced Ceramics Centre has been established by Rolls-Royce to develop new materials technology based on ceramics, which will be utilised in future gas turbine engines.

At the opening, Rolls-Royce chairman Sir Francis Tombs said: "Ceramics-based components will play a key role in future designs of gas turbines and this centre will ensure that Rolls-Royce is in the forefront in this area."

The centre will house a multi-discipline team comprising design engineers, stress analysis, materials scientists and manufacturing technologists.

It will have its own facilities for designing, developing and manufacturing prototype ceramic components.

Bombay shares

Bombay Stock Exchange prices (Rs) Jan 15.	Guji Alki	87.50	83	84.50
Pr. Close	Open	Close	High	Low
ACC	336.50	336.50	336	336
Alcon Chem	—	—	—	—
Alvi Nis	—	—	—	—
Alvi Fab	—	—	—	—
Ashok Ley	95.50	98	98	98
Asia Paint	250	247.50	247.50	247.50
Atlas Cop	43	44	42	42
Atlas Corp	55	56	56	56
Atul Ind	425.91	425.75	425.75	425.75
Bajaj Auto	396.25	395	400	400
Bajaj Rayon	785	782.50	775	775
Bar Rayon	—	—	—	—
Blow Plat	217	220	219.50	219.50
Bon Dye	104	103	104	104
Bon Wei	92.50	92.50	92.50	92.50
Bonar Corp	67	68	65	65
Cen Enka	322.5	337.5	335.0	335.0
Cen Spg	274.5	274.0	272.0	272.0
Colgate	192.50	193.75	191.25	191.25
Cromi Gr	975	—	—	—
DCM	115.70	115.60	115.70	115.70
Deep Fert	33	33.50	32	32
Dunlop	70	68	65	65
Edex	86	84	85	85
ESE Index	782.48	780.54	780.54	780.54
Eskayal	160	160	155	155
Essar Sog	34	33.50	33	33
Food Sp	120	117.50	117	117
Forbes	52.50	50	51.25	51.25
Forca Poly	49	49.20	49.20	49.20
Gulf Ind	121.50	121	117.50	117.50
Grasim	41.50	42	41.50	41.50
GE Slips	51.25	51	50.75	50.75
GSFC	175	176.25	175	175

Compiled by Kuwait-India International Exchange Co.

Tokyo shares

Nikkei stock average: 37,516.77	Komatsu Ltd.	1270	-40
Volume: 600 mil shs	Kyocera Corp	6050	-30
Yen exchange rate: 145.35	Mazuri	3120	-10
	Matsuura Ind	3350	-20
	Mazda M/C	1000	-10
	Mitsubishi Corp	1830	-40
	Mitsubishi Estate	2340	-20
	Mitsubishi H I	1110	0
	Mitsubishi R E	2780	-10
	Minimo Corp	1980	-40
	Mitsubishi R	2780	-10
	Mitsubishi T	1500	-10
	Mori Seiki Co.	4490	+10
	Nikon Corp	1860	-40
	Nippon Papir Printing	2360	-20
	Daiichi Kogyo	2260	-20
</td			

EVENTS

Thuraya contributes to cultural awareness

THURAYA Al Bakhsami, painter, illustrator and writer is an artist whose work revolves around the evocative central theme of the changing role of Arab women. Using several different mediums, Thuraya's work is striking and unusual. She professes a fascination for primitive folklore, and oriental and African imagery and symbolism reappear in drawings and paintings. It is a subject learned first-hand. The young artist is married to a former diplomat and has lived for several years in such far-flung places as Zaire, Senegal and Moscow.

"I feel that travel is very important for artists," she comments. "They should not wait for government recognition or aid but promote their work abroad, wherever possible, and participate in international exhibitions."

As a creative stimulus, travelling is similarly vital, she explains — although sacrifices may have to be made. Having just returned to Kuwait and her young family from a three month tour, this subject was clearly close to the heart. Notwithstanding, the rewards were plentiful.

"I toured so many galleries and exhibitions that now I am full of ideas, all I need are canvases and paints."

One of the countries visited was Switzerland where Thuraya held a solo exhibition comprising thirty-three paintings with the theme the 'Oriental Woman' and the beauty of nature as seen through their eyes. Traditional aspects of Kuwaiti life were also subtly incorporated into many of her exhibited works.

"I am very attracted to the cultural heritage of my country and use many ethnic motifs, such as those found in jewellery, clothes and furniture."

Although Thuraya considers her family upbringing to be fairly traditional, the love of art was instigated and encouraged by her parents at a young age.

"My sister and I had our own studio at home before we were twelve years old..."

Creative talent is clearly in this artist's blood, her late grandfather was well-known Kuwaiti architect, Ahmed Abdul Haleem

Al Bana, responsible for some of the country's finest old buildings, including the Dickson House on the sea front.

"All my family are artists in one way or another..."

Thuraya studied at the Fine Arts College in Cairo and completed her Masters Degree in Graphic Design and Illustration at Šuričov Arts Institute in Moscow. She prefers to work with watercolour or acrylic. "I find oil a very heavy medium — I can't breathe. Maybe it's because I am Pisces..."

The seven years spent in the USSR left their stamp in other ways. She explains.

"Although I am Muslim I was fascinated by the religious icons, I think they are marvellous and not dissimilar from the Islamic miniatures from Iran. As a painter you can obtain something lasting from all these countries..."

More recently, Thuraya has added a new dimension to her art; that of printing and drawing on silk and ceramic ware. She also engraves in acrylic and ink and has held several workshops and classes. These have proved particularly popular with Kuwaiti women who gain the unique sense of personal satisfaction that comes from creative pursuits. Arab women can also obviously relate vividly to much of Thuraya's work which subtly portrays their far-reaching influence in society. Several of her students have revealed exceptional talents, and one a young Kuwaiti teenager, recently held a solo exhibition of her silk paintings at Kuwait's Ghadir Gallery.

This centrally located gallery

is owned by the artist and is the venue of some of the country's most singularly unusual and interesting exhibitions. At the time of our visit, the artist was busily planning an upcoming exhibition featuring C17 and C18 watercolour paintings of the Arabian Gulf and Lebanon. Past exhibits have included European antiques, lithographs, African art and children's illustrations.

The latter is likewise another

Bakhsami speciality. She has

illustrated several books for chil-

dren and, again, stresses to The

Kuwaiti Di

"...how important it is that local artists exhibit

approximately twenty artists from the GCC countries.

"Although we are sometimes invited by governments, overall we are a self-supporting group," comments Thuraya. "To date, we have participated in thirteen exhibitions held all over the world, including Bonn, Cairo, Jordan and Madrid. Our next exhibition is planned for February in Washington D.C."

"I like the fact that we are independent. We travel with our paintings, produce our own catalogues and even distribute a monthly bulletin. There is also a spirit of camaraderie and healthy competition between us as fellow artists."

Thuraya Al Bakhsami has contributed to culture and art, not only in her own right. She has written several short stories and books, including the Black Sweat (1976) and the Free Art Gallery of Kuwait in 25 years (1986). Her latest collection of short stories, entitled Al Sidra, was published last year.

Aside from all the above, the artist is an active member of an organisation called 'Friends of Gulf Art' which consists of



Thuraya Al Bakhsami



CINEMA

Al Andalus
Arabic film
Salmiya
Arabic film
Al Hawra
Someone to Watch over Me
Drive-in
Revenge of Nerds II
Al Firdous
Malamaal
Al Jaha
Rajakhi Srikanth
Granada
License to Kill
Salahikhat
Man on Fire
Jleeb
Lakhi Bedhu
Almadi Drive-in
Arabic film

NIGHT CHEMIST

Kuwait
Al Shaab Pharmacy
Fahd Al Salem Street
Al Ojaib Pharmacy
Al Mubarakiya
Hawalli and Nugea
Al Andalus Pharmacy
Tunis Street
Salmiya and Remaithiya
Al Shefa Pharmacy
Saleem Al Mubarak Street
Fahsheel and Ahmad
Al Wafa Pharmacy
Al Fahad
Khetan
Al Waha Pharmacy
The Main Street
Jahra
Al Khaled Pharmacy
Opposite to the Jahra Co-operative Society

Sharon Waugh

SHARON Waugh, the wife of the Third Secretary and Vice Consul of the Caoadao embassy, Ruo Waugh, will arrive in Kuwait today on a social visit.

PRAYERS

Fajr	5.20 am
Zohr	11.58
Aṣr	2.53 pm
Maghreb	5.12
Isha	6.33

TELEVISION PROGRAMME

KTV 1

MORNING PERIOD
9.30 Opening and Holy Quran
9.40 Sabah Al Kher News
9.50 Cartoon serial
10.15 Magazine D'Actualite (repetition)
10.30 Shua Min Al Madhi: Arabic serial (part 1), starring Mohammed Redha, Zahra Al Olla, Nasreen and Mahmoud Al Jondi

11.45 Challenges: foreign cultural programme (part 3)

12.25 News summary

12.30 Sabah Al Kher news

12.35 Holy Quran and closedown

12.15 Holy Quran and Closedown

KTV 2

6.00 Opening and Holy Quran
6.10 Diplodots. A cartoon series for children
6.30 Dartmoor. "Summer" A look at summer season and how people spend their vacations particularly in areas where rivers exist.
7.00 Peaceable Kingdom
8.00 News in English
8.30 You and the Law
8.45 Coming of Age. "All I Want Was a New Car" Dick has retired as a pilot and planned to live lonely away from any social activity. His wife urges him to be more social.
9.15 The Story of Hollywood. "The Dream Factory". The dramatic rise of the studio system and its stronghold on the business. A penetrating portrait of the Mongols whose abuse led to its crushing downfall.
10.00 The Twilight Zone. "Extra Innings". A baseball player runs away from his wife's critical attitude. He finds himself the best player all over the country.
10.30 The Silk Route of the Sea. "Happy Arabia". A special programme on Yemen on the silk route where it played a historical role... it's people's traditions and means of living.
11.30 A Man Called Hawk. "Choice of Chance". Two criminals enter a house by mistake and start killing its residents. Hawk is compelled to interfere...
12.15 News in Brief
12.30 Magazine D'Actualite

WEDDINGS

ARTS

Photography and Oil painting classes

OIL painting classes beginning 15 January.

Photography classes beginning 16 and 17 January.

8 week course, once a week 4.30 to 7.30 pm. For further details please call Ann Eid Tel. 2426135 or Yasmeen 5326833.

Minister Seminar

THE seminar at the DAA, on Arabic and European Art and The Light of Zodiacoal Symbolism has been postponed. It will be given during the period Feb 11 - March 11, 1990. Morning sessions on Sunday and Tuesday 11.00 - 12.30 am or evening sessions on Sunday and Tuesday 6.00 - 7.30 pm. Registration maybe made by phoning the Dar Al Athar Al Islamiyyah, Tel: 2430826, 2453259.

Iraqi ceramics

AN exhibition of Iraqi ceramics is currently being held at the Hunting and Equestrian Club. The exhibition will be opened everyday until January 26 from 10.00 am to 1.00 pm and 4.00 pm to 8.00 pm.

Lecture

FRED Gettings will give a public lecture on "Islamic and European Horoscopes."

The lecture will be held on Wednesday, 17th January, 1990 at 6.00 pm at the Kuwait

National Museum lecture theatre. The lecture, which is in English, is open to all.

SOCIAL

Goan Community Society

NEXT Friday January 19, will witness the birth of the Goan Society Forum in Kuwait at a gathering of Goans at the Indian Embassy Auditorium at 10.30 morning.

The co-ordination committee invites all Goans here to attend this unique community get-together where every Goan village will have its nominee selected as representative of the Goan community in Kuwait.

It will be recalled that for some time Goans have been meeting and the idea of forming a larger Goan community representation was mooted at the last meeting held at the Embassy Auditorium. The purpose of forming the Society is to take up community welfare programmes jointly. This Forum at village level is being constituted for the first time and it is expected that Goans will respond spontaneously.

Ramada Al Salem

GRAND Indian Food Festival from January 21-26. Display stalls open to Indian companies and individuals. Contact Cliftoor or Siddiq on 483544.

Folk songs

THE CULTURAL group on traditional folk songs and dances of Bangladesh, organised by Nurjahan cultural group will be presented at the auditorium of Sharq Co-operative on Jan 19 at 6pm.

K.M. Shebabuddin, the ambassador of the People's Republic of Bangladesh in Kuwait, has kindly consented to grace the occasion as the chief guest.

For details please contact: Maha Alam 4315692 Salam 4330416, Jaoal 2420711, 2409987, Mannan 4317223.

Saaz aur Aawaz

SAAZ aur Aawaz which is one of the leading Indian musical groups with complete orchestra presents their fourth musical programme entitled "Bhule Biye Geet" covering hit songs of yester years at the Indian Arts Circle, Fuwaitees on Friday, Feb 2, 1990 at 6 pm. There will also be lucky draw prizes. For Passes call 3985456/3610224/5638026 after 9 pm.

Ballet

STEPS Ballet School commences its new term Jan 1990 registration is now open Sat-Wed in the Kuwait English School, Salwa from 3-7 pm. Call 5386481 between 9-12 noon for more information. (For girls only 4-15 years).

The Caraval Nite

"THE Caraval Nite" Entertainers, presented by the first time in Kuwait, The Caraval Nite which is scheduled to be held at the Ramada Al Salem Hotel's Le Mirage main ballroom on 22nd February 1990. Be sure to be there with all your gilt and glamorous costumes to witness this traditional event. Top Ranks and Perfect Strangers will rhythm out their best musical performance for this occasion.

Kuwait Little Theatre

KUWAIT Little Theatre, Ahmadi, are holding auditions for a comedy to be staged in the theatre, in early March and directed by Dave Dorrington. The auditions will be held at the Theatre on 21 and 22 January at 8 pm. All those interested in auditioning are welcome. Those interested in helping backstage are also welcome to attend.

Caledonian Society

The Anoual Burns Night Supper will be held at Messiah Beach Hotel on Thursday, February 1st. For further information and ticket reservation phone: 5335082, 5332335 or 3726791 ext. 253.

Raga Sharqi

INTENSIVE courses (January and February) in the classical dance form, Raga Sharqi. For details call 4836021 or 3900522.

Konkani Drama

THE New Goans Overseas Association is pleased to announce Menido De Bandar's "Sounarant Astana Diat" a Konkani play which will be held in the Jodan Arts Circle (Funaites) on the 16th of February 1990. The cast all from Goa includes M. Boyer, Felicy, Josephine, Betty Alvaras, Tita, Junior Rod, Carlos, Rosario, Dias, C. D'Silva, John de Parra and Menico de Bandar.

Like a Hurricane!

SEVENTH Sky's upcoming Rock concert at Al Andalus cinema on 15th & 16th February, 1990. We are looking for voluntary helpers and also additional male & female vocalists. Ring 5748476 or 2543219.

Kalpak's Drama Competition

KERALA Arts and Literature Promotion Association of Kuwait (Kalpak) is conducting a Malayalam One Act Play Competition at Indian Arts Circle on 9th February 1990.

Kuwait Singers

THE Kuwait Singers will begin rehearsals for its May concert on Monday, January 22, at 7.30 pm at the Gulf English School, Salwa. New members are most welcome. For more information contact 4884134 or 3900522.

British Council

Return to Oz: Wednesday, 17 January at 6.00 pm. Thursdays, 18 January at 10.30 am, 10.30 min.

Return to the Land where the adventure began. Dorothy finds herself back in the land of her dreams and makes delightful new friends (Tik Tok, Jack Pumkinhead and the Gump) and dangerous new enemies (creepy Wheelers, head-hunting Princess Monmhi and the evil Nome King). Amazing surprises to every twist in the yellow brick road.

TIVIM Centre

TIVIM Centre is pleased to announce their 3rd Annual 9-a-side Ister Village Football Tournament which will be held on the Sour grounds, Kuwait City, beginning March 27/28 1990. For further information please contact organisers — 2441860 Casimiro.

SPORTS

Now at the MBH Sports Centre Life saving course, with Royal Life Saving Society Coach, Grade 1 Examiner will be commencing shortly.

Ergocycle Fitness Computer tests and courses now available at Messiah.

Hobby centre

A NEW 8 week course in Jewellery and Design making — For more details call: Telephone: 5618847 or 5317354.

Bingo games

AN invitation is extended to anybody who would like to join our Bingo games and dinner buffet on January 18, 6.00 pm, at the Sunrise Pinoy Restaurant-Fahad. Dinner will start at 9.00 pm. Bingo cards will be given up entry. Come and join us and share the fun. For queries: 3918844.

Daniella Dart

Tournament 1990

The Dart Tournament for Danes will take place at the Gazzelle Club on Friday, Jan 26, starting at 2pm (expected to finish at 8 pm). It is a family event featuring separate junior tournament, so don't leave the children at home. For further details and registration, please call Henrik Licht — 3727688 ext 246; or Bjarne Rasmussen — 3720137 before Saturday, Jan 20.

● All entries for the What's On Column can be sent by telex (22332) to Events Section or hand delivered daily, except Thursdays, from 12 noon to 4 pm, at the Arab Times Office in Shuweikh. Photographs will also be considered for publication. Phoned-in entries will not be accepted.

MINISTER of Social Affairs and Labour, Sheikh Nasser Mohammed Al Ahmad Al Sabah patronised the opening of the twelfth charity bazaar of the Kuwait Handicapped Society at the society's headquar-



BLONDIE — By Dean Young & Stan Drake



HAGAR THE HORRIBLE — BY D.K. BREWER



WHAT CHOMPS — BY BUNNIES



BEETLE BAILEY — BY MORRIS STONE



THE WIZARD OF ID — By Brain Damage & Johnny Hart



ANDY CAPP — By Dik Browne



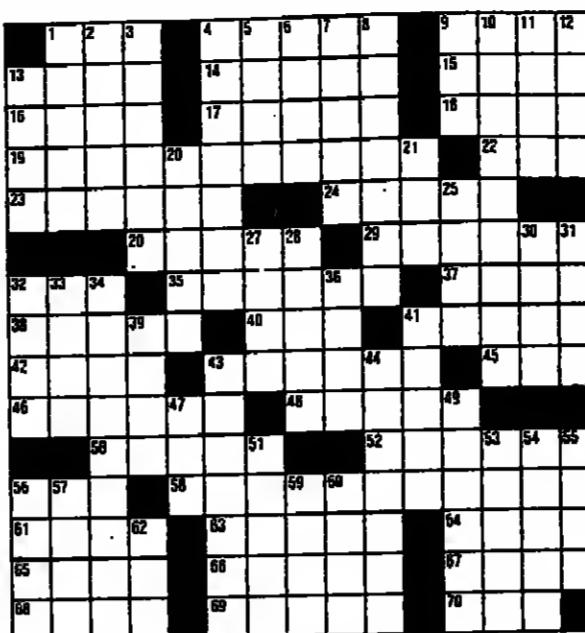
B.C. — By Johnny Hart



HE-MAN — By G. Forton & J. Shultz



TODAY'S CROSSWORD



ACROSS

1 Farm father
4 Ballet movements
9 Do the backstroke
13 Costa —
14 Brilliance
15 Holiday tree
16 Reps.
17 Care of "Fame"
18 boy!
19 One of Bill Murray's crew
22 Oily fish
23 Brook
24 Deep cut
26 Gaudi's country
29 Engravings, in a way
32 Promos
35 Irrigation
37 Emanation
38 Handled
40 Home site
41 Capital of County Clare
42 Actor Jennings
43 Unit of fineness for silk
45 Casual shirt
46 "And what is — as a day...?"
48 Toss about
50 Unfit
52 One way to go on a crossword
58 Popular sandwich, for short
58 Witches' transports
61 Latvian capital
63 Chou —
64 Blend
65 College grad.
66 Beer mug
67 Perfect ones
68 Strong tasting

69 Wife of Sun
Yat-sen, Ching-ling
70 Aves.

DOWN
1 Correct
2 Thespian
3 Throna
4 Actor Ron
5 Light shade
6 Pub orders
7 Emulates Rover
8 Pittsburgh player
9 Dieter's hideaway
10 Persecution, of sorts
11 "the Woods"
12 Margaret, the anthropologist
13 'From' to riches'
20 Recorded
21 Squealer
25 Peruse
27 At liberty
28 Bright lights
30 Part of HOMES
31 Envelope enc.
32 Pilots
33 Major —
34 Adhesive
36 Fighting
39 Vigor
41 Construct
43 Sadden
44 Rubbing out
47 Johnny —
49 Watch holder's
51 The Lone Ranger's companion
53 Singing group
54 Pets
55 Parts of the Sov. Union
56 Blow one's own horn
57 Actress Lee
58 Butter alternative
60 Principal
62 Carter or Irving

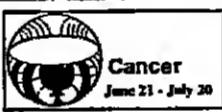
ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE:

ESMIE	DMANI	GOAL
DEAN	FARAD	OLPE
DAY	SDF	WINE
STALKS	TEEN	
ARENA	TRA	
ELEVATOR	IAMBUS	
POKE	TIFFS	ATT
IDD	TURKEYS	LIE
CES	ANEAR	MILE
SNEAKS	RATIONED	
REP	ALAMO	
KIM	DND	PERSIA
ITEM	KNOW IT AL	
LENA	FEELER	GIST
LAIDS	NEEDS	ETAS

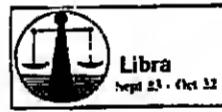
YOUR STARS



Aries
March 21 - April 19



Cancer
June 21 - July 20



Libra
Sept 23 - Oct 22



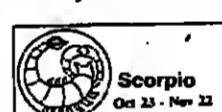
Capricorn
Dec 21 - Jan 19



Taurus
April 21 - May 20



Leo
July 21 - Aug 22



Scorpio
Oct 23 - Nov 22



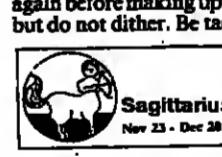
Aquarius
Jan 20 - Feb 18



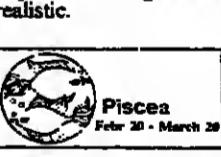
Gemini
May 21 - June 20



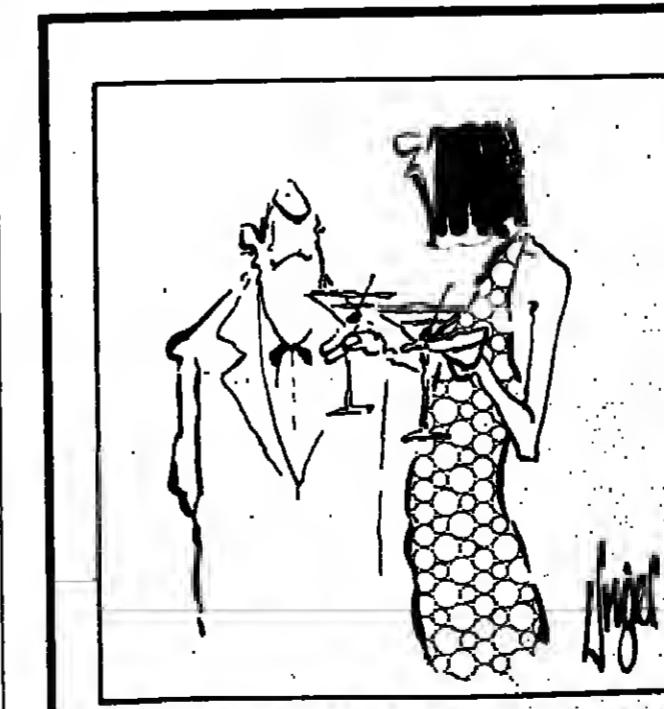
Virgo
Aug 22 - Sept 21



Sagittarius
Nov 23 - Dec 22



Pisces
Feb 19 - March 20



"Money or good looks attract me. I'd say you'd need about \$15 million."



"Is that all you have to say in your defense?"

GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN AND OMAR SHARIF

SQUANDER WISELY

East-West were New Yorkers Adam Wildavsky and Victor King. Adam's opening lead of the king of clubs asked partner to unblock if he held the queen or jack, or to give count if he had neither by starting an echo with an even number of cards or playing up the line with an odd number. Wildavsky, therefore, followed with the three, which marked declarer with three clubs headed by the queen.

To learn more about the hand, West now underled the ace of diamonds. When declarer won the jack and continued with a low diamond toward the ten, West took the ace. East signaled vigorously in hearts, so West shifted to the king of that suit and continued with the jack. Declarer played low from dummy and we know many defenders who would have ducked reflexively. But East realized he had no entry to his hearts, so he put his ace to good use. He overtook his partner's jack and reverted to a club. That allowed the defenders to collect four club tricks, two hearts and the ace of diamonds for a one-trick set. That was necessary to prevent a larger loss, since at the other table East-West played in a heart partial, losing four tricks when declarer misguessed the queen of trumps.

Sharif is anything but the playboy he's made out to be

ATLANTIC CITY, New Jersey. (UPI): His dark, wet eyes on the big screen — the provocateurs of so many fantasies — have given scores of women the vapours in darkened movie theatres around the world for three decades.

Yet the sexy Egyptian, who rode a camel across the desert and into international fame with his starring role in "Lawrence of Arabia" in 1963, insists he is not the playboy he is made out to be.

And it appears Omar Sharif is definitely not in love, at least at the moment, or he likely wouldn't be travelling to Atlantic City, N.J., from his home in Paris next month to indulge in his real passion: gambling.

That passion has parted Sharif, 57, from a good chunk of his wages over the years. He admits he is not a "reasonable" man once he succumbs to the elixir and jangle of the siren casinos.

But for the "lonely" man who has been divorced for 20 years from Arab film star Faten Hamama and who often lives out of hotel rooms, playing the cards or the dice helps to pass the time.

"It's the boredom that drives me to do it really, to go and gamble," said Sharif during a telephone interview from Paris. "It provides me with sort of concentrated thrills for a few hours."

"I've never gambled if I was in love or if I was doing something exciting," he said. "My problem is I don't gamble often but I gamble very recklessly."

Sharif, who cemented his niche in cinema history with his roles in Dr. Zhivago and Funny Girl, will throw caution to the winds and be host to Atlantic City's richest baccarat tournament Feb. 23-25 at the Showboat Hotel casino.

The \$300,000 tournament is expected to

draw 100 of the world's top players to Showboat, which is congratulating itself on luring Sharif, considered a skilled gamesman, to the high-stakes event.

Sharif will return to the Showboat in the spring to revel in another of his passions — bridge. The winner of many national and international bridge events, Sharif will be host of and play in a \$200,000 individual bridge tournament May 6-9.

The celluloid hero has plenty of gambling tales to tell, such as the time he spent three weeks shooting a television film titled "Pleasure Palace," in a Las Vegas casino.

"I was at the dice tables all the time between shoots," Sharif said. "I lost exactly the sum of money that I was being paid for the film. It was \$450,000. I introduced the producer to the (casino) cashier. In other words, the money never even transited my bank account."

Sharif did pocket a big win, though, once, in Italy in 1966, when he tallied \$1 million in 20 minutes at a roulette table.

"I was quite intoxicated with drink," Sharif said. "Some girl had let me down and I was furious. Out of sheer spite I just went and threw all my money on the roulette table and it kept coming up a number I never played."

That number was 29 — "I still hate it," he said. Sharif's favourite numbers all have fours and seven in them. His favourite game is craps because "it's the only game you can really yell and scream out."

In one breath Sharif insisted he no longer gambles, but in the next he contradicts himself.

"Wherever I have some money in the bank I go and have one exotic night and then I regret it for the rest of the year," Sharif said. "I call my agent and say 'you have to get me a work."

About women, Sharif said he has not had a steady paramour in 20 years, but acknowledges that being a sex symbol carries some burdens.

"I've had in my life less girlfriends than any other guy I know," he said. "It's just because I'm a bachelor. I go out now and then with a girl because you can't live your life without a girl, and they make a romance out of it but most often it's not like that."

Sharif said he is "scared" of commitments and believes people "fling themselves too easily into relationships." He adores courting and that's probably why he doesn't want to live with a woman on a regular basis.

About his film career, three years ago Sharif overcame what he calls "anthropause," a mid-life crisis when producers and directors did not know what to do with him as he aged, and he did not know what to do with himself.

Once the star of epics, Sharif also had difficulty finding roles when hip directors began making films with social or political messages. The focus of those films was smaller, more pointed, and had little use for a foreigner, he said.

"I did get lost in the shuffle," Sharif said.

Time marched on, Sharif greyed and wrinkled enough to play old men and the crisis passed. The great leading man is now happy being a character actor in quality productions.

Sharif recently completed an Egyptian film, El Aragouz, or "The Puppet."

It is a serious film dealing with the overcrowding of his native country and the expansion of cities at the expense of the country's agrarian way of life, problems he feels very strongly about.

"Egypt is leaving on foreign aid, really," he said. "We are just beggars now."



Avoid oily, fatty foods, sugar, salt, which lead to greasy hair.



Hair should be washed every day for a shiny look.

Adequate exercise is necessary

Hair needs constant care, diet too

HEALTHY hair depends on constant care, a good diet and the good circulation in the scalp that can only be achieved by adequate exercise. After that the condition of your hair will depend on things beyond your control, such as whether you have naturally dry or oily hair or your age.

Teenagers: Most teenagers go through a lot of stress studying for exams and worrying about their future. Stress coupled with the hormonal changes can cause the sebaceous glands to go haywire, over-producing oil which floods the hair shaft and leaves the hair in a greasy mess.

The skin too is generally greasy, leading to spots and blackheads. The most common mistake teenagers make is to use severe products to eat the grease, whether on the hair or the skin.

In fact any such product has the opposite effect, stimulating the glands to produce even more grease!

The first step to take is to see the oily and fatty foods, sugar, salt, spices and all junk food are avoided as much as possible.

This will not reduce the grease, which is caused by a hormonal problem, but it will definitely reduce the odour that is often associated with greasy hair and it will improve a teenager's general health.

The hair should be washed every day with a gentle shampoo or a dandruff shampoo if necessary. Dandruff often appears for the first time during the teens and if it is brought under control it will not be a problem later on.

Care should be taken when using heated hair appliances, notorious for causing damage to a teenager's hair. Fashion demands that hair is spiked, frizzed, curled and back-combed, all of which leave it in poor condition.

Use blowdryers, heated rollers

or curling tongs enthusiastically on top of all that and you are asking for split ends and other problems.

Used correctly, that is on a low setting, heated appliances can be used every time you wash your hair. Unfortunately, teenagers are usually impatient and blast their hair with the highest setting, burning the scalp and drying out the hair shaft while they are at it.

The only cure for split ends is to cut them off. If you catch them soon enough it makes no difference to the overall length of the hair, if they are left to their own devices they will travel up the length of the hair shaft and it will be years before the hair is right.

Twenty: This should be the age of your hair's life! Hormones have settled down, teenage problems are a thing of the past and health is at its peak.

However, this is also the time when most women have the money to indulge themselves in all those hair treatments longed for but not afforded as a teenager — colouring, perming, straightening and highlighting.

Even more damage is done to the hair by holidays in the sun and exposure to wind and weather as you take part in your favourite sports.

Many women become pregnant in their twenties and suffer from hair loss or a change in the hair's characteristics. This is caused by the hormonal changes taking place in the body and cannot be avoided completely.

But proper care and diet will ensure that the change is temporary and that regrowth is healthy and fast.

The damage that weathering and chemical treatments does to your hair can also be reversed. Using a conditioner specially formulated for treated hair is a must after every wash. This should be well massaged into the hair and

left on for as long as possible before rinsing.

A regular deep conditioning treatment is advisable too. These can be bought at a chemist's or, alternatively, use vegetable oil. Simply warm the oil in a small container and massage it into the scalp.

Cover the hair in plastic film and wrap it in a warm towel, leave it on for as long as possible, at least an hour, before washing.

Try to prevent drying of the hair in the future by taking these steps. Cover your hair with a scarf in wet or windy weather. Slick back your hair with hair gel or conditioner before going into the sun.

Oily hair rarely occurs at this age. If you have it it could be caused by a bad diet or a bad washing routine. Make sure that the shampoo and conditioner you use are for your hair type and always wash your hair in warm water, not hot.

Thirties: The hair begins to dry out quite noticeably at this age as the sebaceous glands slow down and produce only a fraction of the oil they once produced.

Years of bleaching, tinting and perming also begin to catch up on you. Conditioning is the only answer to the problem, as well as a reduction in the chemical processes if possible.

Fashions are changing all the time so it is worth taking a fresh look at your hairstyle to see if you really need those highlights or that perm you have always had.

You might look just as well if not better with a completely new style that doesn't call for such harsh treatment.

Hair loss often starts at this age too. We shed hairs continuously, but sometimes in the middle thirties the hair loss is quite noticeable, with clumps left behind in the sink every time you wash it. This is often caused by stress brought on by the demands

of a career or a growing family.

Relaxation is the antidote to stress, but not the "sitting with the feet up in front of the television" kind. Find a new interest outside the home or take up a sport that will leave you so tired every night that you have no energy left to worry!

The start of grey hair is something else to be concerned with in the thirties. Heredity usually decides when you will start to notice the strands of white, but for most people that happens in thirties.

Your hair gets its colour at the base of the hair shaft where colour pigment is made.

Starting in the thirties, these little colour factories begin to shut down so that the hair growing out of that particular shaft emerges as white rather than black, brown, red or blonde.

There really is no such thing as grey hair. What you are seeing is a mixture of white and coloured hairs which gives the overall effect of grey.

You cannot slow down or stop this process, so accept it as a natural, healthy part of getting on in years. However, you can disguise it very effectively with one of the many rinses and semi-permanent colours.

Forties: By the time you reach your forties, the drying out process that started in the thirties has stepped up even further. This calls for weekly deep conditioning with vegetable oil or a commercial treatment.

Forties: By the time you reach your forties, the drying out process that started in the thirties has stepped up even further. This calls for weekly deep conditioning with vegetable oil or a commercial treatment.

Hair should be dried naturally, to avoid further loss of moisture, or using the lowest setting on the drier.

This is the time when you have to take a long hard look at the colour of your hair. When you first started to go grey, you probably began to tint your hair with a shade very close to your natural colour. This may no longer be suitable for you.

Lighten your hair a few shades for a softer, more attractive appearance and lighten your foundation a few shades to go with it.

Another fairly common problem of the forties is a peculiar form of dandruff which is quite severe and can spread to the forehead, eyebrows and even under the eyes. This is usually a form of psoriasis, but doctors still haven't been able to pinpoint exactly why it strikes at this age. It has to be treated by a professional.

Dull, drab looking hair often causes a lot of anguish to women at this age, particularly those who remember the gleaming healthy locks they had in their thirties.

This is because the hair is coarse and is not reflecting the light. A colour rinse is often the answer, particularly one such as henna which colours and conditions at the same time.

Overfifties: Most women have been through the menopause by this time with its attendant hormonal upheaval. Hair follicles don't get the support that they used to and there is often hair loss, or the hair can look lank and tired.

If the hair loss is particularly severe professional advice should be sought. However, there is plenty you can do yourself to see that the damage done is minimal.

Use a brush or comb with widely spaced tines so that there is no pull or drag on the hair. Never use heated appliances if you can help it and choose soft rollers when curling your hair.

Poor circulation in the scalp is the cause of many hair problems in this age group, so keep your circulation stimulated with a daily massage.

Brush your hair forward and hang your head slightly.

US film producer retreats disillusioned from Russia

HOLLYWOOD, (UPI): Glasnost and perestroika may be changing the world diplomatically, but they haven't done much for Soviet movies.

American producer Malcolm Stuart spent most of the past six months in Moscow trying to complete his new film, "A Captive in The Land," a co-production with the Soviets. The bureaucracy flattened his pocketbook and stretched his schedule almost beyond endurance.

Even Mikhail Gorbaiev could not unwind the red tape in which Stuart and co-producer director John Berry found themselves.

"A Captive In The Land" is the first American-Soviet joint production filmed in

the USSR in 13 years — since "The Bluebird" starring Elizabeth Taylor.

A hollow-eyed Stuart returned to Hollywood briefly during a holiday break and said he thinks God there is no American ministry for movies.

"A Captive In The Land" is the story of a downed Soviet pilot and an American rescuer (Sam Waterston) struggling for survival on the polar icecap. The plot deals with these ideological opposites depending on each other to survive.

The Soviets tried to get this film made for years," Stuart said. "When I came across the script I was anxious to work with the Russians, who put up some of the money and most of the goods and services.

"We wound up with Gorky Studios, which tries very hard but presents us with many problems. There's a difference between the way they work and the way we work regarding availability of money, which is a severe problem in Russia."

Actor Alexander Potapov also presented a problem. A major theatrical star in the USSR, Potapov is also an active member of the Communist Party. When his political duties call, the husky Potapov takes off while the film-makers sit and wait.

"I've been in Russia off and on since August," Stuart said. "We prepared the picture for an Oct. 30 start and we're still shooting."

"At a major studio in California, making a

movie is picking up a phone and saying, 'take care of this.' And they say, 'we did it three days ago' or 'we'll take care of it right now.'

In the Soviet Union there is no one to call. You call yourself because you're at the other end of the line.

"If you tell someone that you need four trucks the next day at 9 a.m. to move the company, you get two trucks at about 2:30 p.m. and one driver wanders off. The other two don't show up at all."

"Maybe it's because they get paid whether they work or not. There's very little incentive to work hard or do something the way it is scheduled."

"A lot of non-productive time goes by as the budget goes up. We were scheduled to

finish Jan. 20. We'll be lucky to wrap by Feb. 10."

"In the middle of production, Potapov announced he had to leave for three days to do a play. I protested because he is in every scene, but the head of the studio threw up his arms and said there was nothing he could do. Another day he left for a Communist Party meeting."

"When I complained to the Russian film company that we needed more stagehands they nodded and shuffled some papers and made noises. The next day we were still short-handed. For various reasons they couldn't contact the workers."

"No could the Americans count on catering, the thought of which made Stuart laugh.

"There is a canteen at the studio that has three items of Russian food that look like a kind of pale sausage," he said. "It isn't good."

"We have a 16-man French crew of technicians, so we go to a hard currency store to buy Western food to bring to the stage. One cannot eat the studio-provided food more than two days in a row."

Despite Russian apathy and indifference to schedules, Stuart found the people to be friendly and as co-operative as they're allowed to be.

Stuart is convinced he will end up with a superb film, despite the difficulties.

"There is tremendous enthusiasm on the part of everyone for what we are doing," he said. "And the rushes look terrific."

Happy birthday



Fawaz Ansari turned 8 on January 15.



Vidhya Paul Sah turned 6 on January 14.



Jovial D'Souza turned 14 on January 13.



Lijo Jose turned 5 on January 10.



Sadaf Saeed on January 14.



Rahul Thakar turned 7 on January 9.



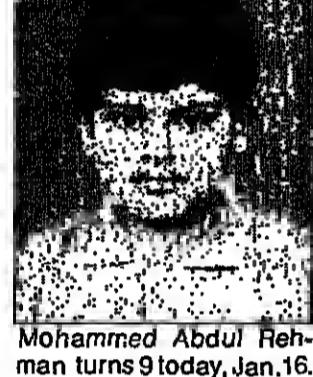
Ali Siddiqui turns 3 today, January 16.



Nookala Rao turns 3 today, January 16.



Ryan Silveira turns 7 today, January 16.



Mohammed Abdul Rehman turns 9 today, Jan. 16.



Roshal Pinto turns 9 on January 17.



Mohit Mittal turns 7 on January 17.

The alien child

He is an alien child from outer space.
As he does not belong to the human race.
His name is Incredible Hulk.
As he was the collector of the garbage bulk.
He had two friends and they were great magicians.
He had a round face with a funky nose.
He loved the red flower called the rose.
He was naked with only one pamper.
And was the alien's most famous camper.
His eyes were big and his face was red.
And he used to sleep in a yellow colour bed.
He had long legs and his hands were small.
His stomach was round and round like a ball.
He liked to dance and twist around.
With the people which were on the ground.
He walked on the road with a gun in his hand.
And was surprised to see such a beautiful land.
As he saw his own planets, flying saucer.
He went to buy some vegetables from the grocer.
He went into the saucer saying bye bye.
But before long the saucer flew up in the sky.
Thus this was the end of the alien child.
As he was cute, lovely, but wild, wild, wild.



Mohammad Ashfaq, (Senior - 2), International School of Pakistan.

A little advice to you

Every year on January thirteen.
With lots of love I wish you happy
birthday.
Jovial dear this very day you are four-
teen,
May God shower his blessings today
and everyday.

In action and deeds you be active,
Because you are growing day by day.
In your work always be self creative,
For you should shine in every way.

In life obedience and honesty is a must,
Your daily duties never you forget.
Keep in life selflessness far away last,
Never be lazy which leads to regret.

Co-operation and understanding brings
peace,
The road of life is tough and hard,
Don't have friends like honey bees,
This advice of mine is your birthday
card.

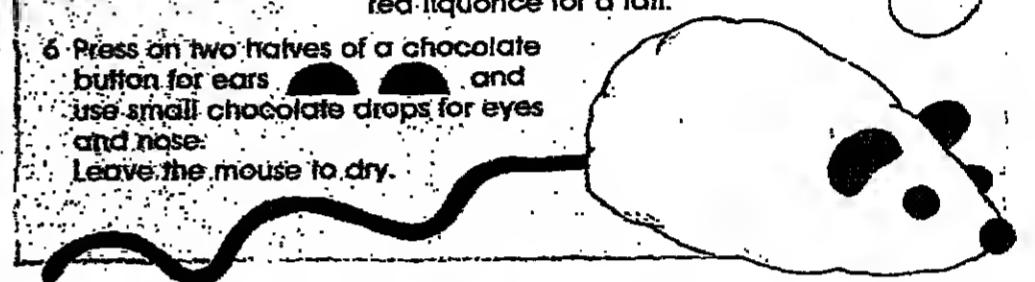
Today is your happy birthday,
I am happy to have a kind brother like
you.
May Almighty assist you in every way,
My promise is, in your hard time, I will
help you.

Your brother,
Jalick D'Souza.Shereen's thought
for the day

The head is always the dupe of the heart....

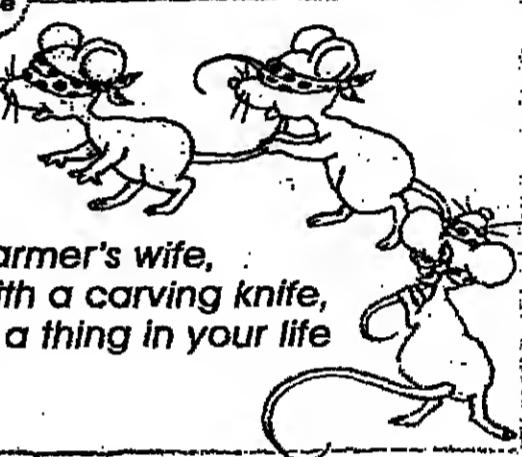
How to make a
cute
mouse

- 1 Lightly whisk an egg white.
- 2 Add enough sieved icing sugar to make a stiff dough.
- 3 Stir and knead with your fingers until mixture is firm.
- 4 Make a mouse shape.
- 5 Push in a piece of thin red liquorice for a tail.



Here is a rhyme about three mice

Three blind mice,
Three blind mice,
See how they run,
See how they run.
They all ran after the farmer's wife,
She cut off their tails with a carving knife,
Did you ever see such a thing in your life
as three blind mice?



Variety

Animals and birds have psychic powers

Book reveals mystical attachment with humans

THE young soldier on the battlefield in France couldn't believe his eyes. As a heavy barrage of shell-fire began, he suddenly felt a tug on his trouser leg and, looking down, was amazed to see the pet dog he had left in England weeks before.

Somehow, the loyal dog, called Prince, had crossed the Channel, travelled at least a hundred miles through unknown countryside, and sniffed his master out in the trenches, amongst an army of half a million Englishmen.

The incredible reunion of Prince and his master in the First World War is one of the most amazing true stories in Dennis Barne's new book, *Psychic Animals*.

Journalist and author Dennis scoured the world for real-life stories of the uncanny psychic powers of animals and birds. And he says it is now convinced there is a "mystical" attachment between humans and animals.

Dennis, aged 78, told me: "I investigated cases of a woman who was saved by a seagull, a dog who foretold his master's death, a baboon who operated a railway signal box, and cats who travelled hundreds of miles on their own to find their masters. Nothing can explain that secret communication between animal and human."

One of the true stories Dennis collected is of a woman whose life was saved by a seagull. He recounts how 82-year-old Rachel Flynn, of Cape Cod, New England, America, slipped and fell over a 30-foot cliff on a lonely beach.

She was too badly hurt to move, and had almost resigned herself to dying when she noticed a seagull hovering overhead. Rachel thought the seagull might be one that she and her sister fed regularly at their home, just a mile away.

They had got to know the bird so well from its visits that they had even given it a name — Nancy. Rachel, knowing it was a forlorn hope, cried out to the seagull, "Nancy, get help!"

In his book, Dennis writes: "The gull flew off to Rachel's home a mile away, where her sister June was working in the kitchen. June was irritated by the gull continually tapping the windowpane with its beak, and flapping its wings frantically.

"She tried to shoo her away, but Nancy would not fly away or cease her noise. At last, after 15 minutes, June decided that, unlikely though it seemed, the bird was trying to tell her something."

June followed the bird to the cliff edge, where it flew down. Then June saw her trapped sister. After calling the fire brigade, Rachel was taken to hospital with a badly twisted knee. Both sisters are convinced that the bird had saved Rachel's life.

Dennis also tells how domestic cats have saved people's lives. A man was shaving him-

self in the German town of Magdeburg when a stray cat's persistent mewing made him open the door. The cat seemed so agitated that it even pulled at his trouser leg, and walked down the street, looking back as if to make sure he was following.

The man decided to follow. And, only minutes later, a bomb was dropped from a Royal Air Force Lancaster bomber. The house the man had just left was flattened. He would have been killed.

Then Dennis, who claims to be psychic himself, told how a Persian cat called Howie made an epic 1,000-mile journey home. In his book, he describes how Howie was left in Queensland's Gold Coast, in Australia, by schoolboy Kirsten Hicks, who lived in far-off Adelaide.

The cat, that was being looked after by Kirsten's grandparents suddenly went missing. Amazingly, a year later, Howie turned up back in Adelaide.

No-one could explain how the cat had crossed deserts, mountains and plains on its 1,000-mile journey.

Another incident which proves the psychic link between some animals and their owners is the case of pedigree collie Bobbie, whose American owners took him on a 3,000-mile journey from their home on the Pacific coast of Oregon to a town called Wolcott, Indiana, and fell over a 30-foot cliff on a lonely beach.

Bobbie ran out of the car during a stop, and vanished. So they sadly carried on with their journey.

Three months later, the family were amazed when Bobbie appeared, exhausted, on their doorstep in Oregon.

In his book, Dennis tells how author and researcher Charles Alexander was so impressed by Bobbie's tenacity and determination to find his master, that he traced the dog's route. He talked to eye-witnesses and studied maps.

Dennis, who lives in Notting Hill, London, says: "Charles discovered that Bobbie had crossed the Rocky Mountains in mid-winter, swum turbulent and ice-laden rivers, and had leapt into the Missouri river to avoid capture. He added: "Of course, being a lovable animal and in obvious distress, he made many friends on the way and they tried to make him stay. But it was always impossible. Bobbie had one goal and one goal only — to find his master."

A little Skye terrier, Greyfriars Bobbie, was another dog so devoted to his master that he could not bear to be separated from him. Even by death. When Bobbie's shepherd master died, the little dog would not leave his grave in Greyfriars Churchyard, Edinburgh, Scotland.

He kept a solitary vigil in the churchyard through for an incredible 14 years.

Dennis, who has written several books on

ghosts says it is not only our domestic pets who have a sixth sense. He tells the story of a baboon called Chacma Jack, whose uncanny understanding of his master seemed to enable him to work railway signals.

Dennis explained that when a signaller at Uitenhage railway station in the Cape of Good Hope, South Africa, lost both legs in an accident, he found it tiring to do his job.

So he taught his pet Chacma how to operate the controls.

The baboon quickly learned the name of each lever, and with unfailing accuracy would race over to pull the correct one at a shout from his master.

One of the most touching cases Dennis describes in his book is when a herd of elephants looked after a human baby. Commander David Blunt, Cultivation Protector for Tanganyika in East Africa, once described to a naturalist how a native woman placed her baby in the shade of a tree while she worked.

Dennis writes: "Suddenly from the hush a herd of elephant passed by. They stopped when they reached the baby. Two or three of them pulled down the branches from the tree. They covered it carefully with a mantle of foliage, so gently as not to wake it. Then they moved off. They had done this to keep the sleeping infant."

Dolphins have also proved their psychic nature to people. They even saved teenager Adam Maguire's life. He was surfing off the coast of Northern New South Wales, Australia, with two friends when a group of dolphins swam over to join their fun.

Suddenly a killer shark homed in on Adam, and tore a deep wound in his stomach. It was coming in for the attack the second time, when the dolphins teamed up and drove the shark away from Adam. With the help of his friends, the teenager struggled ashore and was rushed to hospital. And he still has the scars to remind him of the day the dolphins saved his life.

As we chatted in his book-lined study in his quiet mews house, Dennis, whose wife Marie died several years ago, told me: "For thousands of years, people have recognised the strange and unexplained powers of animals. They were worshipped as gods in many countries."

"And I believe that human beings are inferior to animals in many ways. The Aalsatian dog's sense of smell, for example, is a million times more acute than man's."

"A male chimp has an infinitely stronger pull than an average man. We do not have the echo-sounding and radar-style device of the bat, and our brains are not as highly developed as those of the dolphin or elephant."

"And Dennis added: "But animals are not only superior to us physically. They also outshine us with their amazing psychic abilities."



A dolphin leaping-psychic expert Bardens is convinced that a dolphin's brain-power is more developed than ours.

UB40 out with reggae version

'Labour of Love II'

(Pop) UB40, "Labour Of Love II" (Virgin, 91324-4)

UB40, in its latest album "Labour Of Love II," shows why it is anything but a typical British band. The eight-member group has followed up its platinum-plus "Labour Of Love" release with an interesting array of soul classics.

Rather than make mere copies of the originals, UB40 has reinterpreted the classics into reggae renditions.

Among the songs reworked were Al Green's "Here I am" and the Temptations' "The Way You Do the Things You Do." "Here I am" comes off acceptably, but the temptations' piece is lost by the reggae bootlegs.

The only prospects for success may be "Kingston Town" and "Impossible Love" — the final songs on each side. Their slow, harmonizing sound is more soothing and enjoyable.

UB40 will be very fortunate if it has a song on this album that comes close to the success of "Red Red Wine," which went to No. 1 off the "Labour Of Love" record.

In this case, reggae and soul classics don't mix.

Bon Tripi (UPI)

(Jazz)

Helen Merrill and Ron Carter, "Duets" (Emarcy, 838 097 2)

Bass and voice, what a no-frills combination. And here are two of the best, spinning out very personal interpretations of some of the finest love songs in the jazz and popular music idioms.

Helen Merrill caresses lyrics in a way that draws an emotional shading from each word. The master Ron Carter not only offers an empathetic dialogue on his upright bass, but also panned each arrangement.

This is a fine, intimate session featuring vocal versions of "A Child Is Born," "I Fall In Love Too Easily," "My Funny Valentine," Michel Legrand's "The Summer Rose," "Lover Man," "Autumn Leaves" and "Come Rain Or Come Shine." Also included are a Merrill original, "Come Home Again," and Carter's own "Little Waltz."

Ken Franchuk (UPI)

(Classical) John Adams, orchestra of St. Luke's, "Adams: Fearful Symmetries, The Wound-Dresser" (Elektra-Nonesuch)

Here's the latest from the minimalist-with-the-mostest.

These two works could hardly be more different, yet both are connected to Adams's opera "Nixon in China."

In "The Wound-Dresser," the connection is solist Sanford Sylvan. He sang the role of Chou En-Lai in the opera. His vibrato is so discreet and his diction so good, you can actually make out the words he sings.

And what frightening words. They are the words of Walt Whitman, who worked in hospitals in the civil war. Adams reports he composed under the influence of seeing his mother tend her dying father. "Critics have already noted its relevance to AIDS," the CD booklet says.

Whitman's words will hold extra meaning for some: "Many a soldier's loving arms about this neck have cross'd and rested; many a soldier's kiss dwells on these bead-ed lips." But the poem has universal impact: "One turns to me his appealing eyes, poor boy I never knew you; if that would save you."

The truth is that the biggest barrier to appreciating "The Wound-Dresser" is the generic one all classical vocal works face: we of the jazz and rock generations grew up with such a completely different vocal tradition that it's difficult for us to get past that and focus on how Adams makes the music match the words, you will find the work affecting. Comparison to Britten's "War Requiem" is not unwarranted.

"Fearful Symmetries" is about as different a piece of music as can be imagined from the pen of the same composer. Its connection to "Nixon in China" is the orchestra, the same size and makeup as the one the opera has, heavy on brass and backed up by synthesizer.

The witty mood is the same, too: Adams takes the same infectious beat he employed in "The Chairman Dances" (recommended: Elektra-Nonesuch 79144) and spins out a series of "hol-cha-cha" episodes.

JUNIOR TIMES

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W V O R T E X S Y D D E S

Freddy the Field Mouse

By Julie Hodgson

ONE fine summer morning, Freddy the Field mouse, went out for a walk. The sun was high up in the sky, and there were no clouds in the sky. Freddy decided to visit his friend Tommy the toad down at the pond.

The pond was not far away from Freddy's field, and he would enjoy the walk. On the way he met Francis field mouse, she was a lovely mouse, and Freddy was rather fond of her.

"Good morning to you Francis" said Freddy.

"Good morning Freddy" replied a shy Francis.

"I'm going to see Tommy, would you like to come?" enquired Freddy hopefully.

"Yes please" she said.

So off they went through the long wheat field, the birds were singing gaily, and the soft smell of lilac was drifting through their noses.

Join the science gang

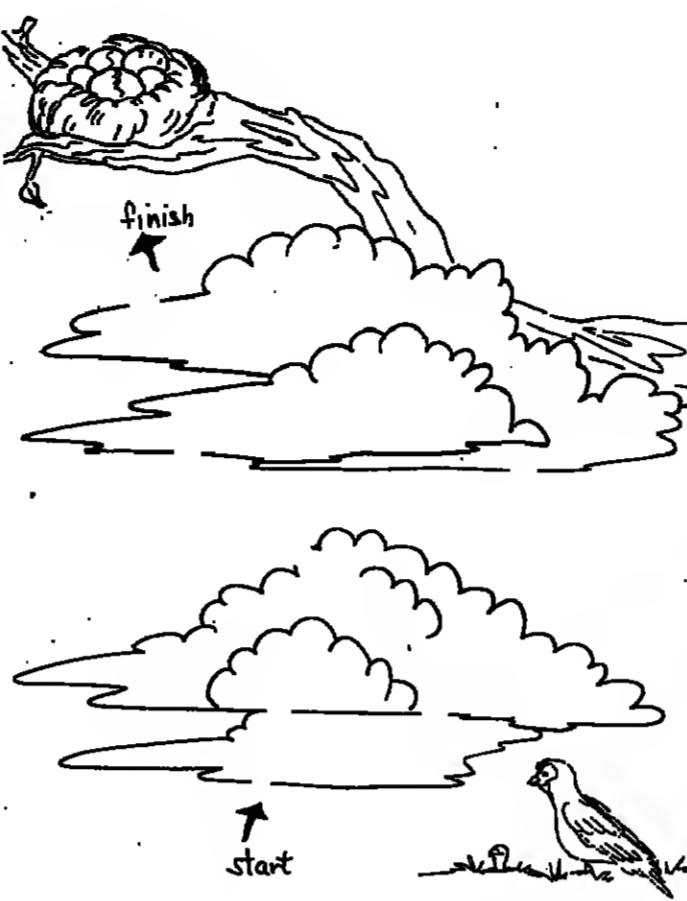
My shadow

Make shadows with your body. You can do it outside on a sunny day or inside with a lamp or a torch.

Can you...



Puzzle Time



Can the bird find the nest

Questions you'd like to ask

What is excitement?

It's that happy, eager feeling of looking forward to something that's about to happen. You can feel excited because something you like is going to happen, or because something new is going to happen and you don't know what to expect.

Can excitement be frightening too?

Yes—when you ride on a very fast sledge or hear a spooky ghost story, for example. Being just a little frightened is part of being excited.



Dear Junior readers,

The weather has really turned cold this past week and many people have bought heaters for the occasion.

"I think," continued

Tommy, that it is high time you learn't to swim."

"What a super idea," said Freddy. "But how do I learn."

"I will teach you, come by the pond every day for two weeks and that should do it."

So after Francis was dried off she went back home. Freddy and Francis came every day and soon they were able to swim. The story of Francis falling into the water and not being able to swim, was the talk of the pond for a long time. It was a lesson well learnt. Never go by water if you cannot swim. It is dangerous, even if there is just a little bit in the bottom of the pond, or lake.

Freddy and Francis, NEVER forgot that!!!!

of horrible household accidents.

The rods are both extremely hot and carry an electrical current. The heat can painfully sizzle anything that touches it; in fact it can make a tissue go up in flames. Imagine how hot that must be!

The current, if the heater is slightly faulty, may cause an electrical shock — a very unpleasant experience.

So keep safe ... keep clear.

Manal

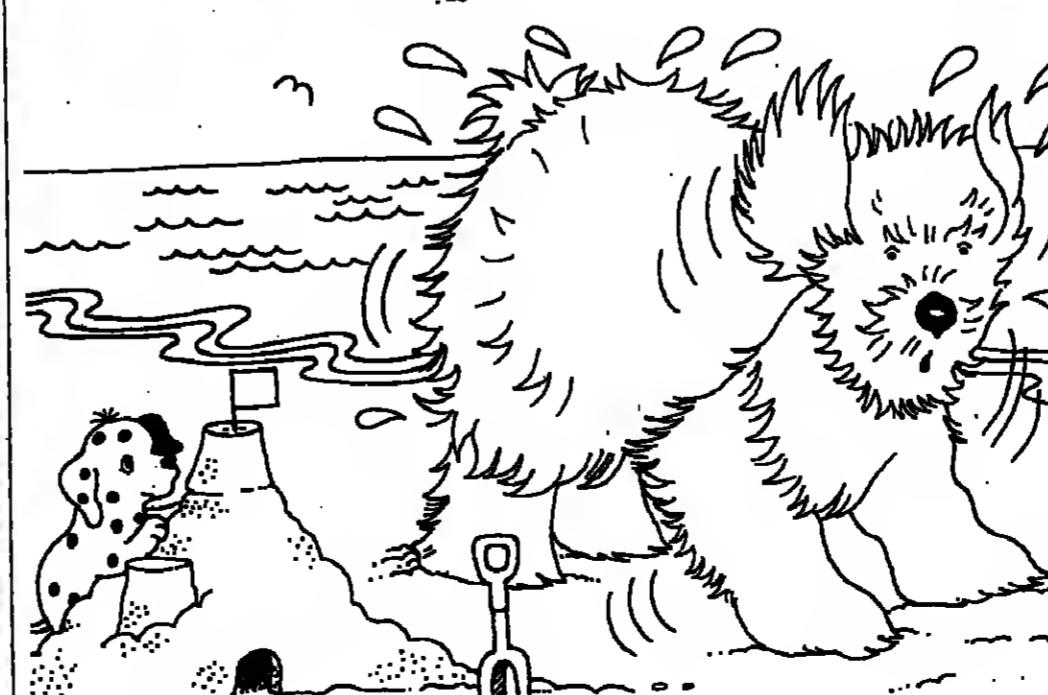
Word pairs

Pair up the ten pictures on the right to give a hidden word. For example, butter linked with fly (below) gives butterfly.

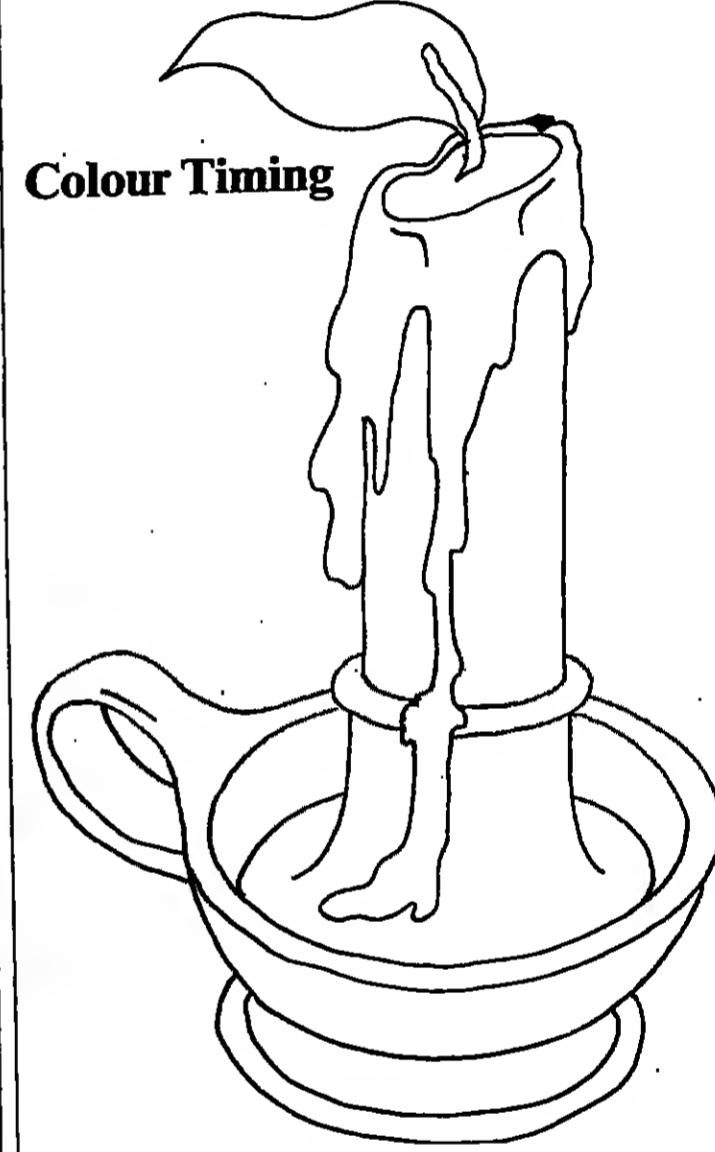
WHAT'S GREEN WITH RED, SPOTS?
A GREENFLY WITH MEASLES!



Spot the differences between these two pictures



Colour Timing



First and last

Jean Gabrielle Peltier, a French journalist and refugee in London, was found guilty in an English court of libelling Napoleon — but he was not punished, as Britain and France were at war at the time.

The ancestral home of the Washington family, of which the first president of the United States was a member, is in Sulgrave, Northamptonshire. They were aristocrats who emigrated to America after the execution of King Charles I.

A 19th-century Maharajah of Jaipur in India was so suspicious of foreign drinking water, that whenever he went travelling he took several urns filled with water from the river Ganges with him.

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RUMAITHIYA, near the Passport Office. Fully furnished room with bath, kitchen and tele. facilities for a bachelor. Tele. 5613895, after 6 pm, Thursday and Friday whole day. (AT4-51126-3)

SALMIYA, near the K.C. Indian School, Building No. 13, ground floor. One room with electricity and water, for a family/bachelors. Rent KD60. Tele. Balbir Singh, 5643426, after 4 pm. (AT4-51123-3)

MAIDAN Hawalli, opp. Salmiya Fire Station. Single room with water, electricity and tele. facilities for one Indian bachelor to share with a Keralite family. Tele. 5612151 after 2 pm. (AT2-51080-3)

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Marathon race

HOUSTON, Jan 15, (UPI): Americans Paul Pilkington and Maria Trujillo won first-place honors in yesterday's 18th-annual Houston-Tempeco marathon. Pilkington won the men's division in 2:11:13, surpassing his personal best in the 26-mile, 385-yard event by four minutes. Trujillo, who was third last year behind England's Veronica Marot, took command of the race early, then held off a challenge from West Germany's Kersstin Preller to win in 2:32:55.

Channel swim

LOS ALAMITOS, California, Jan 15, (AP): US marathon swimmer Lynne Cox crossed the icy Beagle Channel in South America in a good-will gesture designed to promote friendship between Argentina and Chile.

England defender

LONDON, Jan 15, (Reuters): England soccer defender Nigel Winterburn, carried off in five minutes from the Arsenal's 1-0 defeat by Wimbledon in the English First Division on Saturday, is likely to be out for three weeks with a badly sprained ankle.

English soccer

LONDON, Jan 15, (AP): Sheffield Wednesday and Chelsea tied 1-1 yesterday in an English First Division soccer game and failed to alter the leading placings in the standings.

Porto draw

LISBON, Jan 15, (Reuters): Porto stayed top of the Portuguese Soccer League yesterday with a 1-1 home draw against Guimaraes a champion Benfica moved closer.

Kenyan triumphs

ELGOIBAR, Spain, Jan 15, (AP): Kipyego Kororia of Kenya won the 47th Memorial Juan Maguera International Cross Country Race in this northern Basque town yesterday.

Italian officials

ROME, Jan 15, (AP): More than two years after a pit-judge's slight-hand gave Italian broad jumper Giovanni Evangelista a bronze medal at the World Track and Field Championships, the Italian Athletic Federation's disciplinary committee has exonerated all high-ranking federation officials of responsibility in the case.

Hastings chess

HASTINGS, England, Jan 15, (Reuters): Soviet grandmaster Sergei Dolmatov has won first prize in the Hastings Premier Chess Tournament after battling Boris Gulko of the United States to a draw in the final round last night.

Hall of Fame

FORT LAUDERDALE, Florida, Jan 15, (AP): A former Indianapolis banker has been named chairman of the board for the international swimming Hall of Fame. Frank E. McKinney, Jr., 51, succeeds former track and field Olympian William Simon as head of the Hall of Fame and becomes the youngest person named to the post.

NHL games

NEW YORK, Jan 15, (Reuters): Result of National Hockey League (NHL) played yesterday: New York 4 Philadelphia 3. Winnipeg 6 St. Louis 5. Calgary 6 Chicago 5.

Head coach

ATLANTA, Ga., Jan 15, (Reuters): Jerry Glanville, who eight days ago, was relieved of his coaching duties of the Houston Oilers, has been hired by the Atlanta Falcons to be head coach of their National Football League team.

Speed skating

DAVOS, Switzerland, Jan 15, (AP): Uwe-Jens Mey, the East German gold medalist at the Calgary Olympics in 1988, and Norway's 21-year-old rising star Johann Olav Koss won the windup events yesterday to make it two victories each in the two-day World Cup speed skating competition at Caesars.

Ski jumping

LIBEREC, Czechoslovakia, Jan 15, (AP): Werner Haim of Austria yesterday beat Pavel Ploc of the hosting team and Soviet jumper Pavel Kusov to win the season's 12th ski jumping World Cup event in this northern Bohemian town.

Trice gets unanimous verdict

Montana and Elway overwhelm opponents

49ers, Broncos reach Super Bowl

SAN FRANCISCO, Jan 15, (Reuters): Joe Montana gave a record-breaking performance yesterday to lead the San Francisco 49ers to a 30-3 thrashing of the Los Angeles Rams and a Super Bowl date with the Denver Broncos.

Montana completed 26 of 30 passes, good for 263 yards and two touchdowns, to orchestrate the victory in the National Football Conference final at Candlestick Park and position the 49ers for a run at a record-tying fourth Super Bowl title.

The Broncos advanced to their third Super Bowl in four years by beating the Cleveland Browns 37-21 in Denver for the American Football Conference championship.

San Francisco, seeking to repeat as champions and match the Pittsburgh Steelers' mark of four Super Bowl titles, and Denver, winless in three previous Super Bowl trips, will meet on January 28 in New Orleans.

Montana, who has twice earned Most Valuable Player honors in the Super Bowl, was impeccable as he dissected the Rams defense with a completion rate of 86.7 per cent that set an NFC championship record.

The smooth operating Montana kept the Rams guessing as he spread his passes around among eight receivers.

Los Angeles scored first when Mike Lansford booted a 23-yard field goal early in the first quarter, but that was all the scoring the usually high-powered Rams would manage against the 49ers' underrated defense, which intercepted Rams quarterback Jim Everett three times.

The victory gave Denver the American Football Conference (AFC) championship for the Rams with 21 points in the

second quarter. Montana capped an 89-yard drive by hitting tight end Brent Jones with a 20-yard touchdown pass to give the 49ers a 7-3 lead.

Roger Craig plunged over from one yard out to make it 14-3 and then Montana finished off an 87-yard drive with an 18-yard scoring strike to John Taylor for a 21-3 halftime advantage.

San Francisco controlled the second half, setting up Mike Cofer for goals of 28, 35 and 29 yards.

Everett completed 16 of 36 for only 101 yards. The Rams, forced into playing catch-up, ran the ball 10 times for 26 yards. San Francisco rushed 44 times for 179 yards.

"I'm proud as heck of our players," 49ers coach George Seifert said. "They played an excellent game and beat a good team."

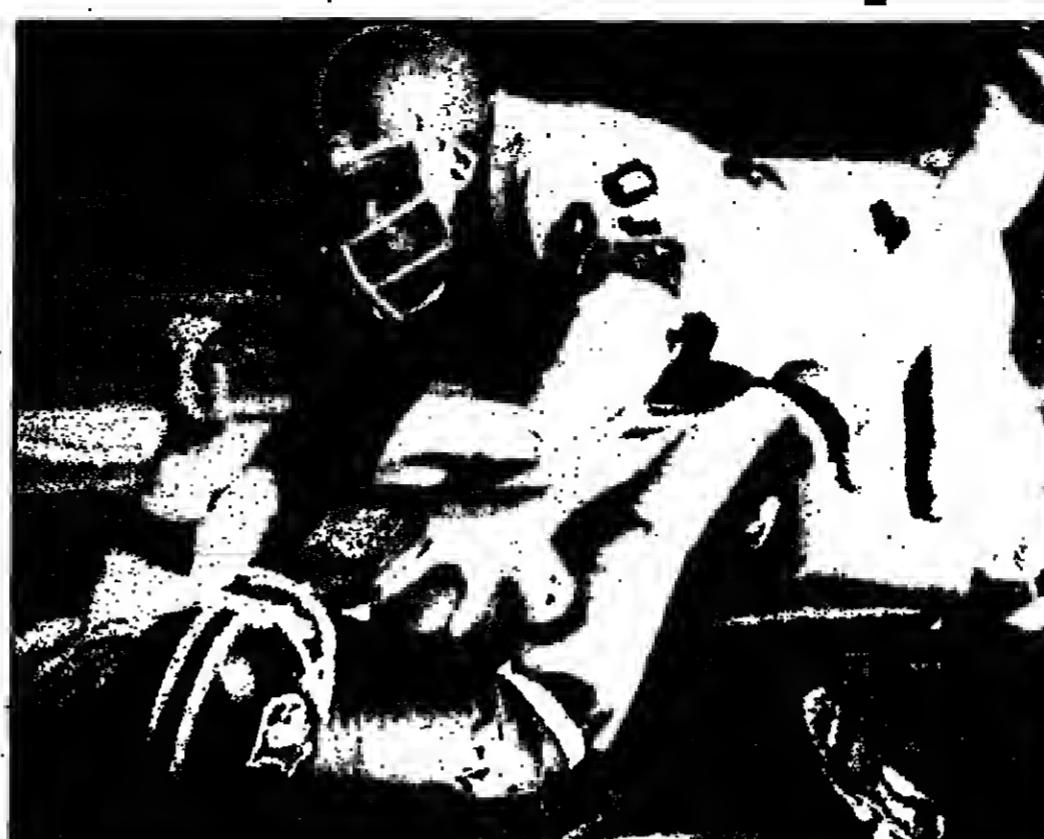
"Now we have to win back to back...Denver has a heck of an offense built around John Elway. We will have our hands full and it should be a great football game."

Joe Montana, asked to assess the Super Bowl match-up, said he was not very familiar with the Broncos.

"I don't get to see them much, but I'm sure that in the next two weeks on the films, I will get to know them very well," he said.

The Broncos, behind the passing of quarterback Elway and a hell-hawking defense that forced key turnovers, scored 13 unanswered points in the fourth quarter to pull away after Cleveland had drawn within 24-21 after trailing 24-7.

The strong-armed Elway was not intercepted but his Cleveland counterpart, Bernie Kosar, was



Elway lands on his back after being hit by Browns' Hanford Dixon. (Reuters wirephoto)

third time in four years — all at the expense of Cleveland in the AFC final.

Elway connected on 20 of 36 passes for 285 yards, his season-high, and three touchdowns with two of the scoring strikes coming after scrambles to turn the Browns' blitz.

Denver dominated the first half but came away with only a 10-0 lead on a 70-yard touchdown pass from Elway to Michael Young and a 29-yard field goal by David Treadwell.

Kosar, playing with an injured finger and elbow on his throwing arm, was picked off three times and completed only 19 of 44 passes.

Denver dominated the first

half but came away with only a 10-0 lead on a 70-yard touch-

down pass from Elway to Michael Young and a 29-yard field goal by David Treadwell.

The Broncos appeared poised

to push over for another first-

half score but the Browns

defence stiffened at the one and then recovered a fumble to turn Denver away empty handed.

Both teams came out firing

after halftime and Cleveland

scored three touchdowns and Denver two in the third quarter.

Denver answered Cleveland's

quick touchdown to start the

second half with two touch-
downs to build their lead to 24-7.

But Kbsar, coming back from a hapless first-half, launched his second touchdown pass to Brian Brennan, who had not caught a scoring pass in 31 games, and then Tim Manus hauled in from two yards out to draw within 24-21 as the quarter ended.

Then came the fourth quarter,
and it was Elway's turn to take

charge.

A short toss to Sammy Win-
der, filling in for injured running
back Bobby Humphrey, turned into a 39-yard touchdown.

Elway then moved the ball

against a desperate Browns

defence twice to position field

goals of 34 and 31 yards by

Treadwell that clinched the

decision.

"The offensive line was great

all day," Elway said about his

protectors. "Cleveland threw

everything at us and we handled

them."

Cleveland wide receiver Web-
ster Slaughter said: "When we

got close in the second half Elway

tried out our defense by running

around. They had to chase him

They couldn't get at Elway."

Kosar took the loss hard. "I

played poorly. I couldn't get any-

thing going in the first half. I

thought that we had straightened

out our season in the last four

weeks and I expected to win

today."

Elway, the losing quarterback

in the two Super Bowls he has

played in to date, said he was

eager for another shot at the

National Football League champion-

ship.

"I'm thrilled I get to go to bat

again in the Super Bowl after two

losses. No, we won't be

embarrassed at all."

Finnish journalist killed in rally

Vatanen retains overall lead

PARIS, Jan 15, (Reuters): A Finnish journalist was

killed in a car crash yesterday while covering the

Paris-Dakar Rally, the first death for two years in

the grueling race through the Sahara Desert, organ-

izers said.

Kai Salminen, 37, was killed instantly when his

press car collided with a local vehicle at the entrance

to the village of the race from Tripoli in Mauritania

to Kayes in Mali.

Salminen, himself a former racer, was the 27th

death in the event since it began in 1979. He was a

close friend of fellow Finn Ari Vatanen, who ended

the day retaining his confident lead in the 12th rally.

Eye-witnesses said the French driver of the Toyota

car, Pierre Devaux, escaped unharmed from the vehicle,

as did locals in the second car involved in the crash.

The year 1988 was a black one for the rally with six

deaths during the race. In the only serious accident

this year, French rider Pierre-Marie Poli is still in a

coma in a hospital in Marseille after an accident on

January 5 during the fifth stage of the race.

In the car race, Vatanen's fellow Peugeot driver

Philippe Wambergue of France made a comeback

from his disastrous performance on Saturday by

winning the two timed sections, a 205-km stretch to

Goudron in the morning and 280 km from Kiffis to

Keyes in the afternoon.

Lada made a good showing, with French driver

Jerome Riviere and Belgian Jacky Icx coming

second and third respectively in the first timed

section.

In the motorcycle race, Italy's Ed Oriolo retained

a firm lead despite the day's win by Belgian Gaston

Rahier on a Suzuki and Italy's Franco Picco riding a

a Yamaha.

Orioli has an hour's lead as he entered the second

day of the race today over 838 km from Keyes to

Saint-Louis in Senegal.

Trice gets unanimous verdict

ATLANTIC CITY, New Jersey, Jan 15, (AP): Tyrone Trice, an American, built his winning margin with smashing blows to the body and short shots to the head. However, he almost lost late in the 10th round.

Both fighters threw rights and

Pompey's caught Trice flush on

the jaw. Trice writhed backward

hadly but, Pompey, an

Mayotte and Sanchez upset Cunningham gives Graf a scare

MELBOURNE, Australia, Jan 15. (Reuters) Steffi Graf, the queen of women's tennis, was given a scare today when little-known American teenager Carrie Cunningham traded hammer forehands for 75 minutes before succumbing 6-2,7-5 in the first round of the Australian Open.

Graf, who has not dropped a set in winning two successive titles here, lost her touch for several games in the second set to present the left-handed Cunningham with a 5-2 lead.

But the moment of truth proved too much for the 1988 US Open junior champion and the West German world number one conceded just five points before wrapping up victory in a thrilling match with two successive aces.

"It's everyone's nightmare to play Steffi in the first round but I was proud of the way I played," said Cunningham, 17. "I couldn't believe it when I was 5-2 up — I was so astonished I think that's what made me start making errors."

Graf was unfazed by her fright. "I'd never seen her before," the number one said. "She played well but it's only the first match of the tournament."

Ivan Lendl, the men's top seed and defending champion, found his best form elusive but also moved safely into the second round of the first Grand Slam tournament of the 1990s, beating American Jim Pugh 6-3,6-2,6-4.

On a low-key opening day when only Lendl among the big name men was in action, the main casualties were Tim Mayotte and Emilio Sanchez, seeded sixth and seventh.

Mayotte lost for the second time in six days to fellow-

Results

First round games in the Australian Open tennis championships today (prefix number denotes seed):

Tomas Carbonell (Spain) beat Cyril Suk (Czechoslovakia) 6-7,5-6,6-3,6-4,6-4,6-4; Steffi Graf (West Germany) beat Karel Novacek (Czechoslovakia) 6-4,6-3,6-1,6-2; Michael Brown (Australia) 6-3,6-1,2-6,6-2; Henri Leconte (France) beat Franca Roig (Spain) 6-1,6-4,6-4,6-2; Jim Woodbridge (Australia) 6-1,6-3,6-4,6-3; Eric Wainwright (Ireland) 6-4,6-0,6-2,6-1; Tim Wilkinson (US) 6-3,6-1,6-3; Leonardo Lavall (Mexico) beat Jeremy Bates (Britain) 6-7,7-5,6-2; Brad Drewett (Australia) 6-1,6-3; Cyril Pingeot (France) 6-7,6-3,6-4,6-3,6-4; Steve Smith (Australia) beat Marin Lauroen (Spain) 6-4,6-7,6-4,6-7,6-4,6-2; Jordi Arrese (Spain) beat Nick Brown (Britain) 4-6,6-4,6-3; Glen Laydecker (US) beat Tarik Benhassine (France) 6-2,6-4,6-3; Tony Fenton (US) beat Michael Stich (Germany) 6-1,6-2; Brooks Schulz (Netherlands) beat Marins Pawlik (West Germany) 6-3,6-3; Anke Huber (West Germany) beat Maider Laval (France) 6-1,6-1; Katerina Maleeva (Bulgaria) beat Lori McNeil (US) 6-2,6-1; Beate Kuhn (West Germany) beat Barbara Lutz (US) 6-1,6-2; Lynn Stoen (United States) beat Svetlana Zivojinovic (Yugoslavia) 6-3,6-4; Rachele McCullagh (Australia) beat Federica Bonsuigari (Italy) 6-1,6-2; Kuniko Okamoto (Japan) beat Maureen Drake (Canada) 6-3,6-2,6-3; Barbara Lutz (West Germany) beat Jennifer Stoeberl (West Germany) 6-3,6-2,6-3; Chris van der Linde (South Africa) beat Jerome Poizer (France) 6-2,5-7,6-4; Lars Jonsson (Sweden) beat Tom Nijssen (Netherlands) 6-3,6-2,7-5; Kuniko Okamoto (Japan) beat Maureen Drake (Canada) 6-1,6-2,6-3; Barbara Lutz (West Germany) beat Shanti Safford (US) 6-1,6-2; Stefano Puccio (Italy) beat Jan Gunnarsson (Sweden) 6-2,6-1,6-2; Alex Antonitsch (Austria) beat Amos Mansdorf (Israel) 4-6,6-4,6-7,6-3; Magnus Gustafsson (Sweden) beat Mark (Steve) Morris 2-2,6-2; Michael West (Ireland) 6-3,6-2,6-1; Peter Doohan (Australia) 6-3,6-2,6-1; Andrew Cherkasov (Soviet Union) beat Shuzo Matsukura (Japan) 6-2,6-4,6-6,6-4; Paul Chambon (France) beat Mark (Steve) Morris 6-0,6-1,7-5,6-3; Nicolas Pereda (Venezuela) beat Chris Pridian (Canada) 6-7,6-1,6-4,6-1; Peter Sampras (US) beat Eva Phil (West Germany) 6-3,6-0,6-2,6-3; Mark (Steve) Morris (Sweden) beat Jill Stueller (US) 6-4,6-2; Erika (Erika) (US) beat Louise Sander (Australia) 6-4,6-2; Mark (Steve) Morris (Sweden) beat Camille Benjamin (US) 6-3,6-2; Raffaella Reggi (Italy) beat Justine Hodder (Australia) 6-1,6-0; Dona Faber (US) beat Eva Phil (West Germany) 6-3,6-0,6-2,6-1; Linda (Linda) (US) beat Kimberly Kressas (US) 7-6,7-5,6-1; Sarah Loosman (Bolivia) beat Jo-Anne Faull (Australia) 6-3,7-5; Audra Kelle (US) beat Steffi Menning (West Germany) 3-6,7-5; Steffi Menning (West Germany) beat Caric Cunningham (West Germany) 6-2,6-3.

American Pete Sampras, going down 7-6,7-4,7-5,10-12 in a marathon lasting four hours 45 minutes.

Spain's Sanchez was earlier undone by big-servings Frenchman Jean Fleurant, world-ranked 57, who registered a surprisingly comfortable 6-2,6-4.

Graf started the 1990s as she had left the 1980s, winning the first game to loves as her forehand drew gasps of admiration from the centre court crowd.

She took the first game with a delightful drop shot but Cunnin-

gham showed she was not to be steamrollered by breaking back immediately. A double fault by the 17-year-old let Graf take the next game and she pocketed the first set in 30 minutes.

When Cunningham broke for a 3-1 lead in the second set, Graf's second serve suddenly lost all conviction, her timing appeared to desert her and the American smelled an unexpected chance.

She raced to a 5-2 lead, moving Graf around the court like few have done in the past two years. But her nerve failed when serving for the set at 5-4, shots started to

spray all over the court and the crowd knew the moment had passed.

Lendl also never approached his best form against Pugh.

Wearing a legionnaire-type hat to ward off the sun, Lendl said his headgear was influenced by his experience last year when he came close to collapse through heat exhaustion in his semifinal against Austrian Thomas Muster.

"It's tough because I've trained as hard as I've ever trained for two months and was very excited at coming down here. That's the way the chips fall, I guess."

Mayotte signed his own death warrant by serving double faults on the final two points of the match.

Despite earlier saving himself with an ace on his second serve on match point against him, Mayotte was left ruing his frail second serve which caused him to serve 11 double faults in the protracted final set.

"It's a real Achilles heel for me," said Mayotte, who had appeared well beaten at 4-1 down in the final set before rain caused a 26-minute interruption.

"It's tough because I've trained as hard as I've ever trained for two months and was very excited at coming down here. That's the way the chips fall, I guess."

The 18-year-old Sampras, who initially came to prominence by beating Mats Wilander in last year's US Open, admitted the match could easily have swung the other way.

"I was very lucky," he said. "But most of the guys on the tour know I'm a pretty shaky second, especially in tight situations."

Among the better-known players to fall was Israel's Amos Mansdorf who, in contrast to Lendl, found the temperature too low when his match against Austrian Alex Antonitsch was briefly held up.

"I found myself serving in the final set and was completely cold. It cost me three straight games," said Mansdorf after going down 4-6,6-4,6-7,6-3.

Two big hitters with past success in the event also went out. Slovjan Zivojinovic of Yugoslavia, a semifinalist five years ago, won only five games against Swede Mikael Pernfors. Dutehman Michiel Schepers, twice a quarterfinalist, lost in four sets to 18-year-old Australian Todd Woodbridge.

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Nehru Cup

Olympia striker Luis Monzon (left) dribbles past an East Bengal (Calcutta) club player in a Group A match of the Nehru Cup soccer tournament in Calcutta on Sunday. Monzon scored the only goal of the match, propelling Olympia to a 1-0 victory. Right: East Bengal captain Krishnay Dey (right) controls the ball as Olympia midfielder Adolfo Jara pursues him. (Reuter wirephoto)



SPORTS BRIEFS

Royals cricket

EVERSHINE meet Kifco in the Rothmans Royals cricket finals, on January 19th, at the Ahmedabad grounds organised by the Unity Cricketers. The game will start at 09:00 am. Arif Esa managed for Rothmans will be the chief guest and distribute the prizes. All cricket fans are welcome to witness this final as top cricketers in Kuwait will be seen in action.

Formula One

KYALAMI, South Africa, Jan 15. (Reuters) The scream of Formula One engines returned to South Africa for the first time in over four years today when Williams team began testing two new cars at Kyalami circuit near Johannesburg.

Painter suspended

LONDON, Jan 15. (AP) English shot put and discus thrower John Painter has been suspended from competition for two years because he failed a drug test, the Amateur Athletics Association said today.

Robson picks 30 players

LONDON, Jan 15. (UPI) England national soccer team manager Bobby Robson has named a 30-strong squad for a World Cup get-together at Lilleshall, England on January 22.

The players in the squad are likely to form the basis of England's squad for the World Cup in Italy.

Peter Shilton (Derby), Chris Woods (Glasgow Rangers), David Seaman (Queen's Park Rangers), Dave Bassano (Chelsea), Gary Stevens (Glasgow Rangers), Paul Parker (Queen's Park Rangers), Ian Snodin (Everton), Stuart Pearce (Nottingham Forest), Tony Dorigo (Chelsea), Nigel Winterburn (Arsenal), Terry Butcher (Glasgow Rangers), Des Walker (Nottingham Forest), Tony Adams (Arsenal), Mark Wright (Derby), Gary Pallister (Manchester United), Paul Lake (Manchester United), Michael Phelan (Manchester United), Michael Thomas (Arsenal), Steve McMahons (Liverpool), Peter Beardsley (Liverpool), David Platt (Aston Villa), Steve Bull (Wolverhampton), Alan Smith (Arsenal), Mike Newell (Everton).

Manchester United's Neil Webb has also been invited to attend the get-together, although he is still unavailable through injury, while Chris Waddle is unable to appear because of commitments to his French club Marseilles.

Gujarat beat Eleven Star

GUJARAT Cricket Club defeated Eleven Star Cricket Club by 34 runs in their first match of the Amar Cricket Tournament on Friday at the Suwaikh New Ground.

Put into bat GCC lost opener Rafiq for only one run. Mubarik joined Tanveer and they added 30 runs for the 2nd wicket before Tanveer was leg-before for 19. Saleem then played with great confidence while Mubarik gave him good support with 20 runs. Wahab hammered 28 quick runs with help of 5 hits to the fence.

Atletico's Paulo Futre received his fourth yellow card in their 3-1 win over Sporting Gijon and will miss next week's crucial game against Valencia while Barcelona, who beat Zaragoza 3-1, will lose midfield Luis Milla for the same reason.

Coach Javier Clemente said Atletico's first half hour was "some of the worst I have ever seen ... then we came back in five minutes because we got angry."

Brazilians draw

SAO PAULO, Brazil, Jan 15. (AP) Brazil and Argentina battled to a 0-0 tie yesterday in the second round of the Masters Cup tournament of former soccer greats held in South America's largest city.

A crowd of some 10,000 fans at Pacaembu stadium in Sao Paulo watched past stars from the two squads play top quality soccer in an exciting match.

Miandad and the pair stoutly defied all further efforts by the Australian pace attack.

Scoreboard

AUSTRALIA first innings 223 (M. Taylor 52, W. Akram 51 or 62)

PAKISTAN first innings 107

AUSTRAILIA second innings